This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`

PRAYERS

FOR THE

MEDICAL PROFESSION

142041
f. 36

PRESS 157
SHELF 15
No 36
6000

14 c

PRAYERS

FOR

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The profits, if any, will be given to some Medical Charity. Any Medical Student who is unable to buy a copy of these Prayers may obtain one Gratis by applying to either of the Publishers.

PRAYERS

FOR

THE USE OF

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

LONDON,

RIVINGTONS; CHURCHILL:

OXFORD, PARKER.

MDCCCXLII.

BODLEIAN
23 OCT 1939
LIBRARY

OXFORD:
PRINTED BY I. SHRIMPTON.

DEDICATION.

LORD, [our] first fruits present themselves to Thee;
Yet not [ours] neither; for from Thee they came;
And must return. Accept of them and [us.]

Herbert's Poems.

PREFACE.

It is not necessary here to dwell on the Apostle's command to pray at all times and in all places, and to shew how it applies to the Medical Profession; for those, who do not feel how great is the privilege of being allowed thus to draw near unto God, are not likely to take up this little book. These few words of Preface will be better employed in explaining its history and object.

The greater part of the Prayers are freely translated, with some alterations, from a collection entitled *Precationes Medicorum Piae*, published by James Horst[a],

[a] James Horst, or Horstius, was born at Torgau in Prussian Saxony, May 1, 1537. He took his degree of M.A. in 1556, and that of Doctor of Medicine in 1562, at the University of Frankfort on the Oder. He held in various places the office of Public Physician till the year 1580, when he received a similar appointment for the Archduchy of Austria, which he held for four years. He was then made Professor of Medicine at Helmstadt, where he afterwards became Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Vice-Rector of the University. He was twice married, and died May 21, 1600. He was a good and religious man, and is said to have been accustomed to implore God's blessing upon the remedies he prescribed. He wrote several medical works, which are not of much value, the greatest literary service that he rendered to his profession being the accompanying Prayers. *Biograph. Medic.*; Bayle, *Dict. Hist. et Crit.*

when he first entered upon his duties as professor of Medicine at Helmstadt. To these have been added a few others adapted from various sources, and two or three have never before appeared in print.

The apparent want of order in the arrangement is occasioned by all of these latter prayers being placed together at the end, as they were not collected till after most of the others were printed off.

It may be as well to say that should any profits arise from the sale of this little work, they will be given to some Medical Charity; but the raising money for any charitable purpose is not the aim of the editors in this publication. Their sole object in thus "casting their bread upon the waters," (as it is their most earnest prayer,) is that it may tend to promote God's glory by supplying the Medical Profession with a manual of devotion such as does not (as far as they are aware,) at present exist.

They have only to add that "if" (in the words of the pious Nelson,) "there be any such readers as shall be prevailed upon by [their] weak

endeavours to become more careful and solicitous about the One Thing Necessary; . . . . . let God's Holy Name have the glory, who was pleased to bless the meanest [instruments] in so great a work. Let [them] only beg the favour of their prayers, that, when . . . . . they prostrate themselves at the throne of grace, and approach the Holy Altars of God, they would, in the fervour of their devotions, offer up a petition for the unworthy [authors;] that, among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, [their hearts] may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; and that, while [they are] solicitous about the salvation of others, [they] may not fall short in securing [their] own."

Jan. 1. 1842.

CONTENTS.

		Page
1, 2.	Prayers for God's Help in Learning	1
3, 4.	For the Gift of Wisdom	2
5, 6.	Thanksgiving for Increase of Knowledge, and Prayer for further Help	4
7.	Before Study	6
8.	For Grace to glorify God	7
9.	Thanksgiving for Wisdom	8
10.	For more than human Skill	9
11, 12.	Confession of Weakness, and Prayer for Divine Help	10
13.	For God's Help in Teaching	13
14, 15.	At the Time of Lecture	15
16, 17, 18.	Glory to God at the End of Lecture	16
19, 20, 21.	For Divine Help in Writing	17
22.	For Forgiveness of past Sins	19
23.	To Jesus Christ for true Piety	20
24.	For Devotion to God	22
25.	For Pity towards the Sick, and God's Help in relieving them	23
26.	For God's Blessing on Medicine	24
27.	For God's Help in healing Pious and Holy Men	24
28.	For God's Help in curing Kings and Rulers	26

Page

29. For Carefulness in curing Diseases . . 27
30. For Kindness towards the Sick . . . 28
31. When several Sick Persons require Help at the same Time 29
32. For Pity towards the Penitent . . . 30
33. For Sick Persons, that they may repent . . 31
34. In cases of obscure Diseases 33
35. For Help in curing those who are resigned to God's Will 35
36. For Strength to bear Reproaches . . . 36
37. When evil spoken of, on account of the Death of a Sick Person 37
38. For Resignation in the Sick 38
39. Vow of Dedication to God 39
40, 41. When tempted to administer what is hurtful 39
42, 43, 44. For the Gift of Temperance . . 41
45, 46. For Chastity 44
47. Prayer against Luxury, and the Snares of the Devil 45
48. For Trust in God 47
49. For Contentedness 47
50. For Contempt of Riches 48
51. For Grace not to reveal Secrets . . . 49
52, 53. For Humility 50
54. For Humility and Patience 51
55. For Constancy in Daily Prayers . . . 52
56, 57. For Gentleness and Compassion towards the Sick 53
58. A Confession of the Dangers of their Calling, and Prayer for Divine Wisdom 54

Page

59. Prayer for the Use of the Young and Unlearned 57
60. For Carefulness in lighter Diseases . . 58
61. For Perseverance in Study 59
62. For Grace, that they may not go beyond their Skill 60
63. For God's Help even in the slightest Diseases . 61
64. Confession of Sin, and Prayer for Pardon . 62
65, 66. For Grace in Teaching, and for the Gift of Healing 63
67, 68. For the Use of Authors, before Writing . 65
69. For the Use of Professors, before an Examination 66
70. At the Election of a New Physician . . 67
71, 72. For the Use of Students, before an Examination 67
73. For Divine Aid 69
74. For the Use of those who do not practise their Profession 69
75. Prayer against Excess, with Thanksgiving for past Mercies 70
76. For the Use of younger Physicians, for a Serious Mind 72
77, 78. For Help from God in slighter Diseases . 72
79. For Patience, and Faith in God . . . 73
80, 81. For God's Blessing on Remedies employed 75
82. For Divine Help in the more dangerous Diseases 76
83. For the same, in acute Diseases . . . 77
84, 85. For Assistance in time of Danger . . 78
86. For Help to assuage the Pains of the Dying . 79
87. For Preparedness for Death 80
88. For Deliverance from Sudden Death . . 81

Page

89. For God's Mercy towards the Sick 82
90, 91. In Behalf of those afflicted with Madness . 83
92. For Protection from God against the Violence of the same 84
93. For Patience with the same 85
94, 95, 96. In any common Plague or Sickness . 85
97. That the Plague may be stayed 89
98. For Wisdom 90
99. A Morning Prayer 91
100. An Evening Prayer 92
101. For the Sick 93
102. For Trust in God when ordering Medicine . 96
103, 104. At the Time of ordering Medicine . . 96
105, 106, 107. Thanksgiving for the Recovery of a Sick Man 97
108, 109. Thanksgiving to be used by a Sick Man after his Recovery 98
110, 111. When departing from a Sick Man whose State is doubtful 100
112. To be used with a Dying Man before departing from him 101
113, 114. In Behalf of those who are at the Point of Death 102
115, 116. Others of the same, to be used with them 103
117. For the Blessing of Jesus Christ in Life and Death 105
118. In Behalf of those in the Agony of Death . 106
119, 120. Others of the same, to be used with them 107
121. To be used before an Operation 110

Page

122. On any Abatement of Sickness 111
123. For a Woman with Child 111
124, 125. Prayers in Behalf of a Sick Person . . 112
126. For Compassion towards the Sick . . 114
127. Morning Prayer 114
128. Evening Prayer 115
129. For the Use of those detained from Public Worship on a Sunday 116
130. On entering a Hospital 118
131. Another of the same, for the Use of Students . 118
132. When going from a Hospital 119
133. Collect for St. Luke's Day 119
134. For Unity in the Church 120

PRAYERS

FOR THE USE OF

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

(1.) *A Prayer for God's Help in Learning.*

O Lord God Almighty, behold here I am in the works of the calling which Thou hast enjoined me; and let Thy servant hear Thy word in all that Thou hast appointed. Give me Thy blessing and Holy Spirit, that all my labours and studies may be profitable, and rightly carried on to the glory of Thy divine name, and the safety and advantage of my neighbour; for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. (2.)[a]

(2.) *Another for the same.*

O Eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Almighty and everlasting God, I pray Thee of Thy great mercy to bless me in all the labours of my calling, and in these mine attempts at learning it; do Thou so strengthen my mind, my perseverance,

[a] The figures at the end of each Prayer refer to the numbers in *Jac. Horstii Precationes Medicorum Piae*, 12mo. Helmst. 1585.

my reason, and my senses, and so perfect them by Thy help, that all the studies and labours of my calling may be rightly accomplished, and may be directed to the glory of Thy name and to the welfare of mankind; through Thy well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (7.)

(3.) *For the Gift of Wisdom.*

O Lord God, Heavenly Father, wisdom and might are Thine; Thou givest wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding[b]; Thou hast also caused me to know that I shall never be truly wise unless Thou send to me Thy Holy Spirit from above[c]: I beseech Thee therefore to direct me, my studies, and my fortunes, and graciously to bestow on me, by the same Spirit[d], the gift of healing mankind; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. (3.)

(4.) *Another for the same.*

O Lord God, Maker of heaven and earth, in Thee do I put my trust, let me never be put to confusion[e]. It is indeed great praise to acquire the knowledge of many things, and to understand their

[b] Dan. ii. 20, 21.
[c] Wisdom ix. 17.
[d] 1 Cor. xii. 9.
[e] Ps. lxxi. 1.

causes, properties, and uses; but it is, and always will be, greater praise in these very things to know Thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent[f]. For Thou art the Way, the Truth, and the Life[g]; nor can the course of our studies be any thing else, than the exercise of knowing and adoring Thine infinite wisdom, goodness, and mercy. So will our study of medicine long after Thee, O God, so will it celebrate Thee, and so will it become pleasing to Thee, sacred to the Church, and a holy song of praise to Thee. Thou art my God, do not depart from me; fill me not only with medical knowledge, but also with true wisdom, that in the works of nature, and of art, I may recognise, embrace, and reverence Thy power. Help me, and I shall be whole, and will always meditate on Thy judgments. Turn from me all those vain uses of the art of healing, which the world applies to further vice, or luxury, or the love of gain; but which Thou, O Lord God, hast rejected, and hast judged worthy of death. For Thou, Lord, art good, and gracious, and of great mercy unto all them that call upon Thee[h]. Grant this, O Lord, for Jesus Christ His sake. Amen. (8.)

[f] John xvii. 3.
[g] John xiv. 6.
[h] Ps. lxxxvi. 5.

(5.) *Thanksgiving for Increase of Knowledge, and Prayer for further Help.*

WHO am I, O Lord God? and what is mine art, that Thou hast brought me hitherto? And this was yet a small thing in Thy sight, O Lord God[i]; but Thou hast also increased Thy servant's skill by the gift of Thy Holy Spirit, according as Thou hast promised unto them that ask Thee[k]. For Thy word's sake, and according to Thy great mercy, hast Thou done all these great things, to make Thy servant know this most noble art. Therefore Thou art to be praised, O Lord God, for there is none like unto Thee, neither is there any God beside Thee, according to all that we have heard with our ears. And now, O Lord God, the word that Thou hast spoken, establish it for ever unto us, who humbly pray for Thy Holy Spirit and for the increase of gifts which Thou hast promised; and do as Thou hast said. And let Thy name be magnified for ever, saying, "The Lord God is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things were made, and by whom the medical art safely, quickly, and agreeably, healeth diseases and assuageth pain." For Thou, O Lord God, hast opened the ear of my heart, saying, "Seek ye the Holy Spirit, and ye shall receive it;" therefore

[i] 2 Sam. vii. 18, &c. [k] Luke xi. 13.

hath Thy servant applied his heart unto medicine, and hath prayed this prayer unto Thee. And now, O Lord God, Thou art God, and Thy words are true, and Thou hast promised this goodness unto Thy servant. Therefore now let it please Thee so to bless mine art, that it may always be pleasing to Thee, and useful to Thy Church, (for Thou, O Lord, hast spoken it,) and with Thy blessing let the art of healing be blessed for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (9.)

(6.) *Another for the same.*

O Lord God Almighty, Thou art God alone, and without Thy Spirit there is nothing in man. I give Thee most humble and hearty thanks for Thy gracious help, with which for so many years I have been furthered in my studies. I could neither have begun nor ended any thing without Thee: but Thou art our wisdom and our strength; and trusting in Thee, and by the help of Thy Spirit, I have happily advanced in the studies of my calling. And so not unto me, O Lord, not unto me, but unto Thy name alone be the glory[1]. And now I beseech Thee to finish what Thou hast begun in me, and to make me a chosen vessel of

[1] Ps. cxv. 1.

Thine in this my calling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (17.)

(7.) *Before Study.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, the fountain of all wisdom and of healthful medicine; who when twelve years old didst go up with Thy parents to Jerusalem to the feast of the passover, and wast found in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them and asking them questions[m] with attention and reverence: Bestow on me, I pray Thee, Thy grace, that with a ready and teachable mind, without bitterness, disobedience, or drowsiness, I may in this appointed place both hear the learned precepts which mine instructors in the divine art of healing may propound, and also that I may learn all that is good, and bring forth abundant fruit. Take from me, O blessed Lord, all dulness of mind and understanding, that I may not spend the prime of my life, nor the expense of my studies, in vain. Instil into me a thirst for true wisdom, and an ardent love for the study of medicine, so that I may the sooner perfectly learn its precepts, considering that of the Most High cometh healing, and that the skill of the physician shall lift up his head, and he

[m] Luke ii. 41.

shall receive honour of the King, and in the sight of great men he shall be in admiration[n]. Pour forth, therefore, the spirit of wisdom and knowledge upon me, and also upon those whose teaching I am now about to hear; that they may explain all things piously and learnedly, and that I, with others, may eagerly and attentively receive, and also keep in memory, that which is healthful and profitable unto all men, and may increase not only in stature, but also (treading in Thy footsteps) in wisdom and favour with God[o]; and that I may help men daily, to the spreading of Thy wisdom and of the art of healing that cometh from Thee, for Thy glory and the benefit of mankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (10.)

(8.) *For Grace to glorify God.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, Almighty and everlasting God, open my heart and my lips, that I may bless and glorify Thy name, which is blessed above every name. Cleanse my heart from all evil and corrupt thoughts, that my lips may continually praise Thee, and my mind meditate upon Thee; that my life may glorify Thee, and my soul bless Thee; that I, who am created by Thy goodness alone, to the praise and glory of Thy name,

[n] Ecclus. xxxviii. 2, 3. [o] Luke ii. 52.

may always, and as long as I live in this mortal state, remain devoted to Thee, so that finally I may attain to serving Thee in the presence of Thy divine Majesty; who with the Father, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen. (16.)

(9.) *Thanksgiving for Wisdom.*

BLESSED be the name of the Lord for ever and ever; for wisdom and might are His: He changeth the times and the seasons: He taketh away and restoreth health: He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding: He revealeth the deep and secret things: He knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with Him. I thank Thee, and praise Thee, O Thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now that which I desired of Thee[p], even the knowledge of the art of healing; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. (19.)

[p] Dan. ii. 20, &c.

(10.) *For more than human Skill.*

O Lord God of heaven, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, whenever we know not what we ought to do, this only is left, that we should direct our eyes to Thee, and wait for Thy help. For whatsoever things are most difficult and hidden in our art, are therefore perchance beyond the grasp of the human mind, in order that we may mistrust ourselves, and learn that all things are in Thy hand. And therefore by Thy just judgment did so many wise men of Babylon[q] perish through their own sinfulness, because they ascribed too much to their own art, and thought that nothing which it did not teach, could be possible to man through Thee. But even as Thou in those things most difficult and unknown to human reason, didst hear Daniel[r] with his companions seeking mercy of Thee, and flying to Thee with prayers, and didst open to him those secret things; so do Thou, O Lord God, give to me in the more difficult and secret, the more unknown and incurable diseases, a knowledge of Thy mysteries, and a wisdom even greater than our art can teach. Make me a partaker of Thy divine knowledge, without which many diseases can neither be learnt nor healed. Enlighten my mind, that I may

[q] Dan. ii. 12. [r] Dan. ii. 18.

know that medicine is not so much an art, as a gift of Thy Holy Spirit; and that I may wholly believe that by the help of the same Spirit[s] I can be sufficient for my calling, and that those things which are impossible for human reason, will be easier through Thee. Grant this, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen. (24.)

(11.) *Confession of Weakness, and Prayer for Divine Help.*

O Lord God Almighty, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, hast made heaven and earth, with all the ornament thereof[t]; who hast bound the sea by the word of Thy commandment; who hast shut up the deep, and sealed it by Thy terrible and glorious name; whom all men fear, and tremble before Thy power; for the majesty of Thy glory cannot be borne, and Thine angry threatening toward sinners is importable: but Thy merciful promise is unmeasurable and unsearchable; for Thou art the most high Lord, of great compassion, long suffering, very merciful, and repentest of the evils of men. Thou, O Lord, according to Thy great goodness, hast promised to us a sufficiency

[s] Eccius. xxxviii. 2. [t] Prayer of Manasses.

from Thee in our calling. And Thou, O God, hast done all things which Thou hast spoken. Because my strength is unequal to the business which I have undertaken, in teaching and lecturing on true and health-giving medicine, my cares are multiplied; I am bowed down by the greatness of my burden, and have no breath, because we have provoked Thy wrath, and have done evil before Thee. O Lord God, we have not reverently enough considered Thy divine power in diseases and in the accidents thereof. Those things which are beheld worthy of admiration in the nature of things, Thine everlasting power and divinity, we have rashly despised. Now therefore I bow the knee of mine heart, beseeching Thee of grace. I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned, and I acknowledge mine iniquities: wherefore, I humbly beseech Thee, forgive me, O Lord, forgive me, and destroy me not. O Lord, I turn unto Thee, and Thou wilt instruct me, and Thou wilt make me perfect in my calling, through Thy sufficiency according to Thy great mercy. Therefore I will praise Thee for ever all the days of my life: for all the powers of the heavens do praise Thee, and Thine is the glory, who, with the Son and Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (25.)

(12.) *Another of the same.*

O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love Thee, and to them that keep Thy commandments: We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from Thy precepts and from Thy judgments[u]; neither have we hearkened unto Thy servant the Apostle, who doth admonish us that Thine eternal power and Godhead should be understood by the things that are made, and that we should not worship and serve the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever[x]. O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto Thee, but unto us confusion of face, as at this day, through all the countries wherein Thou hast placed us, because of our trespass that we have trespassed against Thee. O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, because we have sinned against Thee: but to the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against Him; neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in His laws which He hath set before us by His servant the Apostle: nor have

[u] Dan. ix. 4, &c. [x] Rom. i. 20, 25.

we entreated Thy face, O Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand Thy truth. Therefore hath the Lord watched upon the evil, and hath brought it upon us; for the Lord our God is righteous in all His works which He doeth. And now, O Lord our God, have pity on us, through Thy Son Jesus Christ, and hear the prayers of Thy servants, and our supplications, and cause Thy face to shine upon our art, for Thy name's sake. O our God, incline Thine ear and hear; open Thine eyes and behold the poverty of our art, whereupon Thy name is called: for neither do we set forth our prayers before Thy face, trusting in our own righteousness, but in Thy manifold and great mercies. Hear us, O Lord, and be graciously pleased to listen to our prayers; and do not tarry, O Lord God, for both upon the art of healing and upon its disciples Thy blessing is implored. And this we beg for Jesus Christ His sake. Amen. (27.)

(13.) *For God's Help in Teaching.*

O MY Lord, Thou only art our King: help me, who am the least of the teachers of the art of healing, and who have no helper but Thee[y]. Truly

[y] Esther xiv. 3, &c.

indeed unto me is committed, after the health of the souls of men, the greatest good of the human race, the health of their bodies. For whilst I teach medicine publicly, both by lecturing and in my writings, Thou wilt require from my hands the life of all men, not only of those whom I myself attend, but also of those whom others undertake to cure according to mine instruction. And now it is not sufficient for me, that in my practising medicine, I use both the greatest diligence and prudence through Thee, lest I should err; unless also I beware of teaching, either by my voice or in my writings, any thing that is false, any thing that may mislead, any thing that may be hurtful to others. Call me not to that for which I am not worthy, but send unto me Thy counsel and Thy help, and make perfect by Thy sufficiency one who plainly is not sufficient of himself; and help mine unworthiness, for I have no other help but Thee. Thou knowest all things, O Lord; Thou knowest that I hate the craft of the wicked, and abhor the deceit of vain arrogance. Thou knowest the necessity of my calling, and the sincerity of all my discourse and my doctrine, that I do not teach more than I have learnt, and that I come not to the office of teaching unless called and advised by many. And now I am Thy servant, and by Thee I have been supported to this time, even to the present

day, that I may both be employed in the house of the Lord my God, and may rejoice to say what is pleasing unto Thee. O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, hear the voice of those who have no other hope, and deliver me from the guilt of the blood of others, and save me from my fear; through the same Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (26.)

(14.) *At the Time of Lecture.*

STRENGTHEN me, O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and look at this present upon the works of my calling, that I may perfect this which I have thought of, trusting that it could be done through Thee. Strengthen me, I pray Thee, in this hour[z]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (28.)

(15.) *Another of the same.*

O LORD, Lord, the King Almighty, the whole world is in Thy power, and if Thou hast appointed any thing, there is no man that can gainsay Thee, for Thou hast made heaven and earth, and all the wondrous things under the heaven: Thou art

[z] Judith xiii. 4, &c.

Lord of all things, and there is no man that can resist Thee, which art the Lord[a]. Thou knowest all things, and Thou knowest, Lord, that we have not assembled here according to custom inconsiderately, but that we might examine the powers of nature in all those things which tend to the health of the body of man, and the due performance of its functions, and may recognise Thee, our God, in the works of Thy hand. And now, O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, despise not the portion which Thou hast chosen out of this assembly for Thyself. Hear our prayer and be merciful unto such as are desirous of learning, that they may live, O Lord, and praise Thy name, and may bring forth worthy fruit from that which they hear; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (29.)

(16.) *Glory to God at the End of Lecture.*

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen[b]. (30.)

[a] Esther xiii. 9, &c.

[b] 1 Tim. i. 17.

(17.) *Another Form of the same.*

BLESSING, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen[c]. (31.)

(18.) *Another.*

O PRAISE the Lord, all ye nations; praise Him, all ye people. For His merciful kindness is great towards us; and the truth of the LORD endureth for ever. Praise ye the LORD. Amen[d]. (32.)

(19.) *For Divine Help in Writing.*

O LORD, who hast chosen the writings of men to explain the art of healing, and therein to celebrate Thy name, that there may be a silent school of medicine for the use of those who can not have the voice of living teachers to instruct them: Make all my writings holy, and profitable to our calling; let them proceed according to Thy word, and bring forth fruit; remember Thy mercy, O Lord, and suffer them not to perish; but let them turn to Thy glory, and the good of mankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (33.)

[c] Rev. vii. 12. [d] Ps. cxvii. 2.

(20.) *Another for the same.*

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open; who knowest that in my writings I may expose myself to the slanders of mine enemies, and that though I can easily be freed from them by my silence, yet I write these things, and am well content to suffer all that they can do, through Thy fear, and through diligence in my calling, not of arrogance, and pride: Give me, O God, the assistance of Thy Holy Spirit, that I may in all things seek Thine honour and glory; through Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (34.)

(21.) *Another.*

O ETERNAL God, from whom no secrets are hid, who knewest all things before they were made; Thou seest, Lord, how great is my grief, both for the impediments which beset the path of sound medical learning, and the difficulties which attend the study of it; for by these the talents of many in our calling may be wasted, and they themselves fail to bring forth their fruit. And now with a just zeal, and according to the vow of my calling, I begin the labour of my hand, either that I may make plain that which is obscure, or that I may refute errors, or that I may add something to that which

has been already made known. But since I not only expose myself to the malice of mine enemies, but also through the weakness of human reason am in great danger of departing from the truth, and leading astray the unlearned, who may follow me and my teaching; I beseech Thee, through Thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, that Thou wouldest direct me in my writings, and all my thoughts, words, and actions, by Thy Holy Spirit, that they may not in any point err from Thy commandment, nor bring on me the guilt of innocent blood. There is nothing in man without Thy will; in Thy hand are all my discourses, all my writings, and all the works of mine art. O Lord, give me a right mind, and make me desirous of aiding my brethren in all things; then will many gratefully sing praises unto Thee, and will glorify Thy name for ever; in and through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. (35.)

(22.) *For Forgiveness of past Sins.*

Thou hast chastised me, O Lord, and I was chastised, as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke: turn Thou me, and I shall be turned, for Thou art the Lord my God. Surely after that I was turned, I repented: and after that I was instructed, I smote upon my thigh: I was ashamed, yea, even con-

founded, because I did bear the reproach of my youth[e]. O Lord, remember not my sin, but of Thy goodness look upon me; for Jesus Christ His sake. Amen. (36.)

(23.) *To Jesus Christ for true Piety.*
(S. Bernard[f].)

O good Jesus, O loving Jesus, O Jesus Son of the Father, full of mercy and truth, O sweet Jesus, have pity upon me, according to Thy great mercy; O gracious Jesus, I beseech Thee, by that precious blood which Thou didst vouchsafe to pour forth upon the cross for us miserable sinners, that Thou wouldest cast away all mine iniquities, and that Thou wouldest not despise me, who humbly seek Thee, and call upon this Thy holy name of Jesus. This name of Jesus is a merciful name; this name of Jesus is a health-giving name. For what is Jesus but "a Saviour?" O good Jesus, who hast created me, and who hast redeemed me with Thine own blood, Thou who hast made me from nothing, O let me not be condemned. O good Jesus, Thine almighty goodness hath made me, let not mine own wickedness destroy me. O good Jesus, recognise what is Thine own in me, and wipe away from me

[e] Jeremiah xxxi. 18, 19.
[f] Perhaps *Opera*, tom. ii. p. 390. A. (Ed. Paris, 1586.)

what is not Thine own. O good Jesus, have mercy upon me, while there is yet time for pity, and in Thine awful day of judgment destroy me not. O good Jesus, if, wretched sinner that I am! if I have deserved everlasting punishment from Thy true justice for my most grievous sins; still, trusting in Thee, and upon Thine unspeakable mercy, and that Thou wilt pity me as a loving Father and a merciful Lord, I will call upon Thy holy name of Jesus. For what profit is there in my blood when I go down to the pit[g]? for the dead praise not Thee, O Lord, neither all they that go down into silence[h]. O most merciful Jesus, have mercy upon me; O most sweet Jesus, deliver me; O most loving Jesus, be favourable to me a sinner. O Jesus, admit me a wretched sinner into the number of Thine elect. O Jesus, the safety of those that put their trust in Thee; O Jesus, the safety of those that believe in Thee, have mercy upon me. O Jesus, the sweet forgiveness of all my sins; O Jesus, Son of the Father, pour into me Thy grace, wisdom, love, purity, humility, and holy patience in all mine adversities, that I may bear Thee, love Thee, glory in Thee, and be delighted in Thee for ever and ever; who, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen. (39.)

[g] Psalm xxx. 9. [h] Psalm cxv. 17.

(24.) *For Devotion to God.*

(S. Augustine[i].)

Woe to the rebellious soul which doth not seek Christ, which doth not love Him, and remaineth in darkness and misery. He who doth not love Thee, O God, loseth his life. He who doth not care to live for Thee, O Lord, is nothing, and is for nothing. He who refuseth to live to Thee is dead. He who is not wise unto Thee is foolish. I commend, and yield, and give myself up to Thee, O most merciful God, through whom I am, and live, and am wise. In Thee is my hope and my trust, and in Thee is all my confidence, for through Thee I shall rise again, and shall live and be at rest. I desire Thee, I love Thee, I adore Thee; for with Thee I shall reign and be blessed for evermore. The soul which seeketh not Thee, and loveth not Thee, but loveth the world, and serveth sin, is subject to wickedness, and is never safe. May my soul always most piously adore Thee in my pilgrimage, may it ever pant for Thee, may my heart burn in Thy fear, may my soul rest in Thee, O my God, may it meditate upon Thee in my secret thoughts, may it sing Thy praises with joyful shouting, and

[i] See "Manuale Divi Augustini de Aspiratione Animae ad Deum, ex Dictis Sanctorum Patrum Elegantioribus Recollectum," (4to., *s. l. et a.*,) *cap. 5. p. 7.*

may such be my consolation in this mine exile from Thy presence. May my mind take refuge under the shadow of Thy wings from the violence of the thoughts of this age. May my heart which swelleth even as a vast sea with the waves, rest in Thee, for in Thee alone is peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (40.)

(25.) *For Pity towards the Sick, and God's Help in relieving them.*

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast taught us by the example of Thy Son that we should not practise the art of healing for the sake of gain alone, but out of love for our neighbour for Thy sake: Bestow on us a pious and merciful heart, that we may feel a true pity for the sick who are worthy of our relief, and so may begin their cure with the greatest benevolence and faith. Be Thou present with us, in all our treatment of them, with Thy help; and whatsoever may be wanting to our knowledge and experience, do Thou supply and make perfect by Thy word. Grant, O Lord, that we may use the art of healing in Thy fear, and in all the works of our calling may reverently acknowledge, adore, and ever celebrate Thy gracious and unceasing power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (41.)

(26.) *For God's Blessing on Medicine.*

O Lord God Almighty, Heavenly Father, who by Thine everlasting Word hast made all things, and hast blessed and preserved them hitherto: Vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, to declare unto me the ever-enduring word of Thine only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and so implant it in my heart, that I may both obtain Thy divine grace and blessing on all medicine for the body, and may also employ all these gifts to the glory of Thy divine name and to the good of my neighbour; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (42.)

(27.) *For God's Help in healing Pious and Holy Men.*

O Lord God Almighty, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thou knowest that this sick man through Thee hath come nigh unto perfection, hath by Thy grace faithfully served Thee and Thy holy Church, and hath been a useful instrument in the same. And now behold how small is the number of Thy holy ones, and how few are the faithful ministers of Thy word. We have not acknowledged Thy gracious bounty which

in him Thou hast gloriously bestowed upon us Thy children; much less have we embraced it with a thankful mind, and extolled Thee with due praise. And so Thou hast a just cause for taking him away in Thy great wrath, from the midst of us. But since I have been called for the purpose of healing him, I beseech Thee that Thou wouldest cease to be angry, that Thou wouldest forgive Thy people their offences, and restore him to health and safety, that he may continue to discharge his duties in Thy Church; and that Thou wouldest not suffer mine art and labour to be of none effect in his behalf. Create in me a heart desirous of curing him with the greatest diligence and faithfulness, and of watching with anxious care all the changes and pains of his disease, that I may not either by my negligence or carelessness be guilty of losing one of such great use to mankind. Teach me that as my best endeavours and advice are due to all the pious members of Thy Church, so especially is fitting care to be taken of those who are the chief persons in the same, and pillars of the ministry of the word of God. O God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, three persons, one God, I humbly trust that Thou wilt grant me these things, which I ask for as Thou hast taught me. Amen. (46.)

BIBLIOTHECA BODL

(28.) *For God's Help in curing Kings and Rulers.*

O Lord God, merciful Father, Thou knowest that all the works of the art of healing are works of mercy, if they be rightly practised; but how often do our hearts grow cold, and are wanting in love for the sick. Give me therefore a right heart within my breast; make me to be touched with a due feeling of pity for all those who are afflicted, and to weep with them that weep. But since no greater misfortune can happen to the human race than that the whole Church or State should be distressed; how great should be my compassion towards this Thy servant, a chief man both in Church and State, whom we can but ill spare. And indeed I do pity him, but do Thou, O Lord, aid my pity, that being led by Thee, I may shew the greatest diligence and faithfulness in curing his disease, and in raising from sickness him whose safe recovery all pious and good men do so earnestly desire. And this I humbly trust that of Thy merciful kindness Thou wilt do; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (50.)

(29.) *For Carefulness in curing Diseases.*

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thou with the Holy Spirit knowest the weakness and imperfection of our reason, be it never so much strengthened by art and experience; and that nothing is any where accomplished, nothing is sufficiently sure and firm, unless it be governed by Thee. Both we ourselves, and all our deeds, thoughts, and counsels, are in Thy hand. Of all those who are sick there is not one but hath been created by Thee, and redeemed by the precious blood of Thy dear Son. Thou, O Lord, wilt demand of us the life of man, if it be rashly destroyed, even though it be without our will; I therefore beseech Thee with the deepest thoughts of my mind, that for the sake of Thy Son Jesus Christ, our only Mediator, Thou wilt so guide me in all my actions, my counsels and discourse, that I may safely order for all men the most fitting remedies. Do Thou strengthen the judgment of my reason, and my heart, that I may practise the art of healing wisely, and may order all things to the glory of Thy name; through the same, Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (51.)

(30.) *For Kindness towards the Sick.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, the Son of God, who not only hast redeemed us by Thy precious blood, but hast also promised that Thou wilt send to us the Holy Spirit, to guide and strengthen us in our calling, and to perfect all our works: Give me, I pray Thee, that Holy Spirit, who may so direct me in the works of mine art according to Thy will, that I may take the care befitting a faithful physician of all the sick in whom any hope of repentance yet remaineth, (especially of the members of Thy holy Church,) and that I may have compassion on them from my heart. Do Thou, O God the Holy Ghost, the fountain of life, warm my heart, for it is cold, that I may perform all the works of healing seriously and piously; and with Thy most holy flame enkindle in me a true pity for all the sick, to whom we can and ought to impart our aid, that the duties of our calling may be sufficient in Thee, and may be healthful to the Church and State; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (52.)

(31.) *When several Sick Persons require Help at the same Time.*

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Thou knowest that I have pity upon all sick people, and very willingly help all good or hopeful men by my endeavours and by my counsel: but when so many sick persons fly to me, and seek my help and presence, and I cannot satisfy all; then let me first take care of him who is most sick, or whose life is of most advantage to the Church and State. The others indeed I will help, through Thee, by my writings and my words, by my advice and remedies; but when they too have such dangerous diseases that written counsels will scarcely be enough, I beseech Thee that Thou wouldest bless them by Thy word, which proceedeth from Thy mouth, and wouldest cause the means adopted to be sufficient. How often when engaged in curing many and various sick persons, with each of whom I could not be present at the same time, have I feared lest the remedies should be too weak for the disease; but Thou, O Lord God, hast made them prosper in my hand. O never do Thou withdraw this favour from the works of mine art; preserve the sick entrusted unto my care; do Thou add by Thy word that which is wanting to the nature and the power of the

medicines; and strengthen, O God, that which Thou hast wrought for us[k]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (53.)

(32.) *For Pity towards the Penitent.*

O JUST and merciful God, who dost punish men deservedly on account of their iniquities, and dost graciously reward the good; who dost everywhere exercise Thy justice, and yet through Thine infinite mercy, for the sake of Thy Son Jesus Christ, dost forgive our sins: We beseech Thee that Thou wouldest sanctify and govern our hearts by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may truly forgive the faults not only of the pious, but also of the wicked, and the enemies of the Church, who turn to Thee. Let us ever be present in our calling with our counsel and help; and make all the works of the art of healing to proceed from pity, and to be bestowed with a pious and faithful mind on all sick persons who repent. Grant this, O Father, for Thy Son Jesus Christ His sake. Amen. (54.)

[k] Psalm lxviii. 23

(33.) *For Sick Persons, that they may repent.*

O ALMIGHTY God, whose strength is made perfect in weakness[l], and who art the Saviour of them that put their trust in Thee[m], and a very present help in trouble[n]: I humbly beseech Thee for all sick men, who are oppressed by any weakness of the body, or are in danger of death, that Thou wouldest vouchsafe to grant them grace that they may know Thy will in all their sufferings, and so may bear them with patience. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to strengthen and comfort them by Thy Holy Spirit, to visit them upon the bed of sorrow, and to aid them in all adversities. Have mercy upon them after Thy great goodness[o]; for the death and passion of Thy dear Son, forgive them all their sins and iniquities, by which they may have offended Thee, and brought their sickness upon themselves. And if it be not against Thy most holy will, nor the safety of their souls, do Thou vouchsafe to help them, and restore them to health both in body and mind; for when Thou wilt, Thou canst quickly heal them, for Thou indeed art our best Physician, and our surest refuge, who art wont then to help us most when we despair of all human aid. Look down there-

[l] 2 Cor. xii. 9.
[m] Psalm xvii. 7.
[n] Psalm xlvi. 1.
[o] Psalm li. 1.

fore, O Lord, from Heaven, and behold the affliction and crying of the sick; aid by Thy divine wisdom the ordinary means appointed for them; and help them with Thy stretched-out arm, that they may attain to their former health. But for those indeed for whom it may be better to depart hence from their misery than to tarry longer in this valley of tears, do Thou vouchsafe to take them to Thyself by a blessed end, that being steadfast in the true faith, and strong in hope, they may enter into everlasting joy. Aid them in the last hour of life by Thy Holy Spirit; bestow on them Thy grace, that they may compose themselves to die happily and willingly, and that they may also be strengthened by receiving the most Holy Supper of Christ, before they depart hence. Strengthen their faith, that they may from their soul desire their dissolution, and to be with Thee in the company of the elect; and graciously shorten the pain and torments which they now suffer. Help them so to conquer all the anguish of death, that they may attain unto everlasting life; turn their sorrow into that joy which no man taketh from them[p]; and receive into Thy hands, O Lord, their souls, which Thou hast created and redeemed; through Jesus Christ Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. (55.)

[p] John xvi. 22.

(34.) *In Cases of obscure Diseases.*

O THOU, who art the great physician; O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, who alone canst give the spirit of wisdom; who knowest that the gifts of healing are bestowed upon us in unequal measure, either according to Thy divine grace, or the age of each one, or the time of his studies; who also hast warned us solemnly in Thy holy word, that every one should be certain in his calling, and should prove himself in all things that he taketh in hand, and whatsoever he doeth, should do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men[q], knowing that he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: Grant, O Lord God, that we may not be ashamed to confess that some diseases are unknown unto us, or too difficult for our skill to cure, but may refer them to others who are wiser and more experienced than ourselves. For we read that our forefathers, though they were heathen, did the same; for Paetus when he was invited to the camp of the Persians, confessed that the sickness of the army was beyond his skill, and advised that Hippocrates should be called in[r]. Why therefore should not

[q] Col. iii. 23, &c.

[r] Hippocr. Epist., tom. iii. p. 770. ed. Kühn.

younger physicians, (who, although skilled in milder diseases, are as yet unpractised in the more dangerous,) confess that there are some which they dare not undertake to treat? For how often are slight diseases increased by ignorance, and wounds, which seemed trifling at first, come in the end not to be despised; and even the aged acknowledge others to be above them, one in this disease, another in that. Suffer us neither to look with hatred or envy upon those of our fellow-physicians, who may have had longer experience than we, or have received greater gifts at Thy hand; nor let us despise those who are less advanced in learning and knowledge than ourselves: but grant, O Lord, that being united in heart and counsel, we may ever offer up to Thee our common prayers for Thy divine help; and that each one in his calling may perform his own especial work, and may never take in hand a disease too great for the gift which Thou hast given him, but may think soberly of himself, and not more highly than he ought to think[a]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (57.)

[a] Rom. xii. 3.

(35.) *For Help in Curing those who are resigned to God's Will.*

O Lord God, the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, send me good speed this day[t] and all my whole life, and shew kindness unto Thy servant in the works of his calling. And when the men of the city and of the country round about, who are in trouble about their health, shall come to me, and seek my counsel and aid; then let the sick man, to whom I shall say, "Cast thy care upon the Lord, who Himself will do it, according to His own will, nor can I promise thee in this matter more than God willeth;" and he shall answer, "I seek not more from thee:" let the same be he to whom Thy grace will be present to help him, and upon whom Thou wilt shew Thy mercy. Teach me also, O Lord, to keep my hand, as far as may be, from those who lightly regard Thy help; for they are under the power of Thy wrath, and far from the light of Thy countenance. O God, I beseech Thee, graciously to look upon me, in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. (58.)

[t] Gen. xxiv. 12, &c.

(36.) *For Strength to bear Reproaches.*

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hast said, If thou wilt walk in My ways, I will guard thee, and I will give Mine Angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways, and in their hands they shall bear thee up, that thou hurt not thy foot against a stone[u]: Surely I am less than the least of all Thy mercies, and all the truth which Thou hast fulfilled to Thy servant. In Thy fear, O Lord, I have undertaken this my calling, and now I have begun to struggle with many slanderers. Deliver me, I pray Thee, from their hand, for I greatly fear them, lest without any offence or fault of mine, they should by their calumnies destroy me and my good name. But as Thou hast said that Thou wouldest bless those who feared Thee and walked in Thy truth, and that Thou wouldest guard them in all dangers by Thy holy Angels; have mercy therefore upon me, O God, after Thy great goodness[x]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (59.)

[u] Ps. xci. 11, 12. [x] Ps. li. 1.

(37.) *When evil spoken of on account of the Death of a Sick Person.*

BLESSED be Thy name, O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who even when Thou art angry shewest mercy, and forgivest the sins of those who call upon Thee in the time of their trouble: and now I set mine eyes and my face toward Thee[y], and say, I beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thou wilt loose me from the bonds of my reproach, or else wilt take me out of the earth. Thou knowest, O Lord, that I have never presumptuously undertaken to cure the sick, but that, in obedience to their call, I have approached them; I have never meddled with that which is foreign to my calling, neither have I joined myself to those who walk in vanity, and fear not the injury which they may do to others. But I have resolved both to learn and to practise the art of healing in the fear of the Lord, and not according to mine own will. And either I was unworthy of the glory of mine art in the case of this sick man who has died; or else perhaps he did not deserve Thy mercy; or peradventure he was a "righteous man, taken away from the evil to come[z]:" and it may be that Thou hast kept back Thy goodness,

[y] Tobit iii. 12, &c.

[z] Isaiah lvii. 1.

and the praise of such a holy calling, for some other sick man; for man's counsel is not in his own hand, neither is there any help in our strength unless Thy word be added, for which we humbly pray; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (60.)

(38.) *For Resignation in the Sick.*

O Lord God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, be Thou present with Thy Holy Spirit, not only to us, but to all our sick also, and to those around them, that when they see that success is wanting to our treatment, and that the disease prevails through Thy secret counsel, they may confess their sins and turn unto Thee, and may cease to reproach and murmur against us. Enlighten all their minds, that they may know that we are not "Gods, to kill and to make alive[a];" and that it is Thou who hast in this case rendered useless our remedies, and made the sickness too strong for nature and medicine to overcome. Give us also of Thy strength, O Lord, that we may bear with firmness all the evil that may be spoken against us, and may teach both the sick and their attendants, that they must not

[a] 2 Kings v. 7.

hold us in the place of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (61.)

(39.) *Vow of Dedication to God.*

O LORD, if Thou wilt be with me, and wilt keep me in the way of my calling, in which my soul is continually in my hand day and night, amid the many kinds of sickness which I strive to cure; and if Thou wilt give me bread to eat and raiment to put on, and wilt bring me again to my home in peace and safety: Then Thou shalt be my God, and all that I may teach others in the art of healing shall be to the glory of Thy name, and shall be holy unto Thee; and of all that Thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto Thee[b]. And do Thou, O Lord, be graciously pleased to accept it at my hands, in the name, and for the sake of Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (66.)

(40.) *When tempted to administer what is hurtful.*

O ETERNAL God, surely I have vowed a solemn vow unto Thee, that I will never be persuaded by bribes or entreaties to give any deadly drug[c]; I

[b] Gen. xxviii. 20, &c.
[c] See Hippocr. Jusjur., tom. i. p. 2.

am also mindful of Thy commandment, "Thou shalt not kill[d]," to which Thou hast added the punishment, "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed[e];" and lastly, I have learnt myself that innocent blood crieth out openly to God upon the murderer: But since the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour[f], and hath also tempted the most holy saints, and even our Lord Himself; I beseech Thee in the time of temptation to be present with me by Thy Holy Spirit; make steadfast my mind in rejecting such wickedness, and, O Lord, suffer me not to be led away from my duty, either by fear or the hope of reward. May God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, be graciously pleased to grant me this that I have prayed for, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (70.)

(41.) *Another for the same.*

O Almighty and merciful God, the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, I thank Thee with my whole heart, that Thou hast called me to the art of healing, in which I not only daily see the marks of Thine infinite power and wisdom

[d] Exod. xx. 13. [e] Gen. ix. 6. [f] 1 Pet. v. 8.

and goodness, but also find more and more occasion of exercising brotherly love and Christian charity towards mankind. Give me a right spirit within me, by which I may both reverently think of Thee and of Thy goodness, and may despise all unlawful gifts. Turn away my mind, O Lord, and mine eyes, from the gifts and favours of the wicked; grant that I may value Thy commandment and Thy will above all things, and that I may make my calling and election sure[g]. For so shall I be free from sin, and shall inherit the everlasting life, which Thou, O Lord Jesus, the Son of God, hast purchased for me by Thy most precious blood. Amen. (71.)

(42.) *For the Gift of Temperance.*

O Lord God, Father and governor of all my whole life, give me not a proud look, but turn away from me vain hopes and concupiscence. Let not the greediness of the belly, nor lust of the flesh take hold of me; and give not over me Thy servant into an impudent mind[h]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (72.)

[g] 2 Pet. i. 10.

[h] Ecclus. xxiii. 1, &c.

(43.) *Another for the same.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, the Lord of life and death, teach us to know how weak we are in our flesh, and how easily we are led astray. What is so hard and stout as not to feel hurt? how much rather then shall our soft body be affected by so great intemperance, our weak life be cut off, and our days be shortened by so great incontinence! Wherewithal shall we excuse ourselves at Thy judgment, when our own blood shall cry out against us, and Thou, O God, with dreadful punishment shalt demand the blood of others at our hands! But, O Lord, pardon our offences, and of Thy mercy grant us such a measure of Thy grace that our moderation may be seen in all things, and that in sobriety and temperance we may cheerfully live to Thee. Turn us, good Lord, that we may not be an offence to others, and be doubly scourged, as servants who know Thy will, and do it not. Do Thou help us in our weakness, that we may avoid the sin of excess, and may serve Thee only, according to Thy commandment; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (73.)

(44.) *Another.*

O Lord God, Heavenly Father, who knowest that I have vowed a solemn vow unto Thee, that I will always, by day and night, give the afflicted the assistance which they need, and that I will enter into no house but that I may aid the sick; who knowest also that nothing doth hinder the work of healing, and the performance of this my vow, more than intemperance in meat and drink, by which the senses and thoughts and counsels and remedies of a physician are brought to nought: Give me therefore from Heaven, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thine only-begotten Son, a sober and temperate heart, so that I may avoid all self-indulgence, and may calmly and cheerfully perform the duties of my calling at any hour. Surely it should be mine to warn others that are polluted with these crimes; not to confirm them by my example, and so heap on them Thine anger and punishment, and call down upon myself Thy displeasure in all my ways. Surely I should know, more than others, that by these excesses I may make haste to destroy my life, that I may sow the seeds of deadly disease, and at length unconsciously by little and little may cause my death, and so deserve eternal death hereafter. To Thee,

O Lord God, I confess my sins, and beseech Thee that Thou wilt rule and govern me henceforth and for ever by Thy Holy Spirit, that I may rightly use the abundance of all things which Thou hast given me, to the glory of Thy heavenly name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (74.)

(45.) *For Chastity.*

O God, holy and pure; O God, who wilt have us with a pure mind call upon Thee: Make me a clean heart, and a chaste soul, and renew a right spirit within me[i]. Give unto me Thy Holy Spirit that He may burn my reins and thoughts with His flame, so that my flesh may flourish again in the newness of modesty and holiness, and that I may serve Thee with purity, and refrain from all corruption of uncleanness, whether they be male or female of whose sickness I am taking charge. O cause me to please Thee in my calling with a clean heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (76.)

[i] Ps. li. 10.

(46.) *Another for the same, with a Confession of Sin.*

O LORD God, the Father of mercy, whose judgment beginneth from Thine own house: Have pity on us Thy servants who confess now our sins unto Thee. Thou art just, O Lord, who visitest our iniquity. We have sinned with lust, and have loosed the reins to wicked desires; but we give thanks unto Thee because Thou, as a father, hast admonished us, and hast led us back in time into Thy way. O strengthen us by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may live in chastity and modesty, and that in healing the diseases of women we may be mindful both of Thy commandment and of our vows, and may keep ourselves pure and holy, and so approve all the works of our art unto Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (77.)

(47.) *Prayer against Luxury, and the Snares of the Devil.*

O GOD, who art of purer eyes than to behold iniquity: Vouchsafe to grant unto our prayers the desire of our soul, and such purity of heart, that our breasts, being refreshed with wholesome washing, may continue free from all carnal offences. To Thee we bend our knees, and bow

our necks, and humbly we beseech Thee that Thou wilt make us to flourish in Thy holy Church with undefiled faith, with uncorrupted soul, with strong devotion, and with continual love and worship. We pray unto Thee, O Lord, Father Almighty, whom, together with Thy Son, all the hosts of heaven adore; and we beseech Thee to give unto us a mind pure, innocent, holy, clean, temperate, chaste, amidst all the snares and temptations of the world. Bestow on us a breast so fortified against all the malice of the devil and allurements of the flesh, that we may not be caught in his cruel, bloody, and deadly devices, but may bear in safety the mark of eternal life. Drive from us all the luxury and uncleanness of the age, and all the persuasion of Satan; let him be ensnared, and let him fall, so that he may depart from us. Of Thy great goodness shew mercy unto us, who flee unto Thee for succour. O Thou, who hast given life to the dead, sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, speech to the dumb, feet to the lame, and health to the leper, so also do now unto us Thy servants; for we believe, O Lord, with the whole strength of our souls, that Thou wast born into the world, and didst suffer, and wilt come again to judge the quick and the dead; who now livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (79.)

(48.) *For Trust in God.*

O Lord God, Heavenly and merciful Father, who feedest the fowls of the air, and clothest the grass of the field, and above all takest care of man: We beseech Thee, of Thy bountiful goodness, to drive from our minds all impious cares and all distrust; and so to increase our faith in Thy fatherly providence, that we may cast all our care upon Thee, and may trust in Thee alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (80.)

(49.) *For Contentedness.*

O Lord, my God, how small is the number of those who live contented with Thy most bountiful goodness, and if there be any one amongst us who seemeth to think that that which is necessary for the support of the body, is enough for him to have, he rather saith so in words, (as Galen writeth,) than sheweth it in his deeds. Why do we physicians, who know that nature is satisfied with a few things, seek more than mere food and clothing? Why do we Christians, who, taught by the Son of God, know that raiment of itself cannot clothe us, and that man doth not live by bread alone, but by every word that pro-

ceedeth out of the mouth of God[k], why are we so blindly intent on gain? Teach us, O Lord, to know and constantly to believe that by so taking thought for the morrow, we can add nothing to ourselves, but rather may endanger our calling and our skill; and grant unto us that we may cast all our care upon Thee, and may place all our trust in Thy word alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (81.)

(50.) *For Contempt of Riches.*

O Lord God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, have pity upon me. I know full well that I cannot be a true philosopher, much less a real Christian, unless I utterly despise the riches and vanities of this world, and put my whole trust in Thee; nevertheless, the wants of the flesh often render doubtful the support of my life, and make me afraid even for my sustenance. Grant unto me, O Lord, Thy Holy Spirit, who may so direct the works of my calling, that I may desire day and night nothing else but Thy glory, the good of Thy Church, and the welfare of our state and nation. Create in me a true heart and a free spirit, that I may cast all my care upon Thee, and may seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness[l], and

[k] Matt. iv. 4; vi. 30. [l] Matt. vi. 33.

may not be anxious about the changes and chances of this mortal life. Take from me that restless care with which too many in our calling seek for gain and riches above all things, and neither acknowledge nor praise Thee in the works of their art. Let the thoughts of the wicked be far from me, that glory, and honour, and rank, and station, and wealth, and power, are first to be sought for, and that afterwards at any time the word of God may easily be added; and do Thou, O Lord God, be graciously pleased to direct and govern me in all my ways and actions; through Jesus Christ, Thine only-begotten Son. Amen. (82.)

(51.) *For Grace not to reveal Secrets.*

O Lord God Almighty, who hast called me to the office of visiting and healing the sick: Give me grace to conceal all things which it may not be fitting to reveal, whatsoever I may either have seen or heard while attending upon the sick, or even may have learned in common life[m] when not called in for my medical advice; and since not only Christian charity, but Thy word[n] also doth so demand, grant that I may keep them secret, and preserve them, as known unto myself alone, even until death. Grant, O Lord, that my tongue may

[m] See Hippocr. *Jusjur.* [n] Prov. xi. 13.

be slow to speak, but that it may advisedly shew forth Thy praise, and tell of those things which may tend to the glory of Thy divine name and the advantage of my neighbour; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (85.)

(52.) *For Humility.*

O Lord, the God of patience and consolation, grant us to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus, that we may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ[o]; and that in all the works of our art, we may use, each one according to his measure, the gifts of healing granted unto us by the Holy Spirit, for the health of man. Grant also that in our calling we may look to nothing else than the praise of God and the good of our neighbour: and that we may receive one another, even as Christ also received us to the glory of God; so that we may neither, if strong, think too highly of ourselves and despise others, nor, if weak, envy and speak lightly of those who are endowed with greater prudence and learning in our art. So shall it be that out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned[p],

[o] Rom. xv. 5, &c. [p] 1 Tim. i. 5.

we may have the hope of everlasting happiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (87.)

(53.) *Another for the same.*

O Lord God, who resistest the proud, but givest grace unto the humble[q]: Give unto us the virtue of true humility, of which Thine only-begotten Son shewed in Himself a perfect pattern unto the faithful[r]; that we may never provoke Thy wrath, by being puffed up, and trusting in the works of our art, as if building a tower even unto heaven[s]. Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let our crying come unto Thee[t]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (88.)

(54.) *For Humility and Patience.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, Son of God; our Wisdom, and Righteousness, and Sanctification, and Redemption[u]; who didst endure many bitter things for us, and didst gather unto Thyself a people which should serve Thee with meekness and humility: We beseech Thee, of Thy great mercy, to take away from us all pride and haughtiness, and to keep

[q] James iv. 6. 1 Peter v. 5.

[r] See "Diverses Prières," p. cviii., at the end of the *Missel de Paris*, 8vo. 1716.

[s] Gen. xi. 4. [t] Ps. cii. 1. [u] 1 Cor. i. 30.

us in truth and soberness. Grant that we may bear with a patient spirit all those things in which the world may here oppose us; forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and turn their hearts; and grant that in the life to come we may all be partakers of Thy heavenly kingdom; even as Thou Thyself camest not into this world to reign as a king, but to be the servant of all, and to give Thyself a ransom and a sacrifice for sinners,and to sanctify them for ever; Who now livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen. (89.)

(55.) *For Constancy in Daily Prayers.*

O Lord God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who together with the Holy Spirit hast in Thy power, and dost rule and govern all our thoughts, all our discourse, all our counsel, and all the works of the art of healing: Grant that we may be constant, not only in teaching and practising the works of our calling, but also in spiritual exercise and in prayer. For there is nothing in man without Thy will, and without Thee doth nothing prosper; even as also Hippocrates[x] witnesseth, that the knowledge of God is necessary, besides a knowledge and practice of the art. So do we

[x] Probably *De Decenti Habitu*, tom. i. p. 70, 71.

beseech Thee to grant unto us, that at the same time we may continue steadfast in teaching, in practice, and in prayer; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (95.)

(56.) *For Gentleness and Compassion towards the Sick.*

O ALMIGHTY God, I thank Thee with my whole heart, and praise Thee for Thy goodness; for Thou hast preserved me from my youth up until now; Thou hast nourished and guarded me, a poor helpless man, and enriched me with these Thy benefits. And now I humbly beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thy grace and Holy Spirit may never depart from me, but that Thou wouldest so increase in me Thy manifold gifts, that I may more worthily praise Thee, and that my soul may cleave unto Thee alone. For Thou, O God, hast been my defence and refuge[y]; Thou art the Way, the Truth and the Life[z]; Thou alone canst search the heart of man; and in the heaven above or in the earth beneath, there is no help or comfort but in Thee, O Lord. O do Thou have mercy upon me, a miserable sinner, and be present with me in the works of my calling; make me gentle and compassionate towards the sick, and so lead and

[y] Ps. lix. 16. [z] John xiv. 6.

govern me in all my labours, that they may tend to the praise and glory of Thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (96.)

(57.) *Another for the same.*

O Lord God, just and merciful, who dost punish all men for their sins, and freely rewardest every good work; who dost often to Thy children remit somewhat of Thy justice, and through Thy mercy forgivest their iniquities: We beseech Thee so to warm with Thy Holy Spirit our cold hearts, that we may faithfully serve all our brethren, and comfort them with our counsel and assistance. Grant also, O Lord, that we may send away no one who calleth unto us, without our consolation and advice; and that with fatherly pity we may behold our neighbour's wants, and with earnest care relieve them; through Jesus Christ Thy well-beloved Son. Amen. (97.)

(58.) *A Confession of the Dangers of their Calling, and Prayer for Divine Wisdom.*

O God of my fathers, and Lord of mercy, who hast made all things with Thy word, and ordained man through Thy wisdom, that he should have dominion over the creatures which Thou hast

made[a], and for the recovery of health in sickness should use the gifts of healing which Thou hast given him: Thou hast placed such a power in the herbs of the field, that by them both diseases may be removed, and pains in the body of man assuaged. Great also are the rewards which Thou hast promised to those who visit the sick, and who in healing them are faithful unto Thee; but against those, who by their medicines cause the death of the innocent, or bring their life into danger, Thou hast denounced Thy heaviest wrath, even though in this world they go unpunished. And therefore, O Lord, I acknowledge the perils which attend me in this my calling; I know that it bringeth upon me not only the praise of man, but also a heavy burden, and grievous to be borne; I know that it is not brute beasts that are intrusted to my charge, but Thy beloved children, whom Thou hast redeemed with the precious blood of Thy dear Son; I know that those who treat the sick without due care, offend the very apple of Thine eye; I know, too, that Thou art always ready to hear those who call upon Thee in the time of trouble. Help me therefore, O Lord, with Thy Holy Spirit, that I may so perform all the duties of my calling in Thy sight, that Thy children may not rise up against me before Thy

[a] Wisd. ix. 1, &c.

judgment-seat. Who am I, O Lord, that I should be sufficient for these things? I am but a man, weak and powerless, nor is my whole life long enough to exhaust all the resources of mine art; my reason may easily go astray in the judgment of many things, so that I may err as well in doing too much for the sick, as in neglecting what is needful for their relief. O Lord of mercy, give me wisdom, that sitteth by Thy throne, and reject me not from among Thy children; for I Thy servant and son of Thine handmaid am a feeble person, and of a short time, and too young for the understanding of many things. For though a man be never so perfect among the children of men, yet if Thy wisdom be not with him, he shall be nothing regarded. Therefore, O Lord, send down to me Thy wisdom out of Thy holy heavens and from the throne of Thy glory, that being present she may labour with me, that I may know what is pleasing unto Thee. So shall my works be acceptable, and then shall I heal the people righteously, and be worthy to sit in the seat of my fathers. Give me, O Lord, a right spirit within me, that I may take in hand the cure of the sick in Thy fear and love; not for the sake of gain alone, but out of compassion and Christian charity. Enlighten my heart and mind by Thy holy word, that those things which Thou judgest good, I also

may value; and those things which Thou esteemest evil, I also may hate; and that every thing which displeaseth Thee, I may avoid. Bestow on me Thy blessing in all my studies, and in the works of my calling with the sick; and so direct me, O Lord, by Thy Holy Spirit, that I may faithfully serve and benefit Thine elect; and at the last day may stand with a joyful spirit before Thy judgment-seat; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (98.)

(59.) *Prayer for the Use of the Young and Unlearned.*

O Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, how many are the sick, but how few are those who are really skilled to heal them! And therefore what counsel or hope can there be, unless Thou, O Lord God, be present with Thy help, and enable us, who are young and unlearned, to withstand the first beginnings of disease? But forasmuch as we do not know sufficiently the nature of man's body, and the power of different remedies, we beseech Thee, O Lord, so to govern and direct us by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may never attempt any thing beyond our strength, nor bring upon ourselves the guilt of having shed the blood of others. Give unto us, O Lord, grace and wisdom, that we may under-

stand the simpler kinds of disease, and in those that are more difficult may in time commit the sick unto the care of those who have more learning and experience than ourselves. Grant also that in those lighter affections which we strive to cure, we may walk warily, and through Thee may bring forth worthy fruit according to our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (99.)

(60.) *For Carefulness in lighter Diseases.*

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is indeed most true that even the slightest wounds may not be neglected. Do Thou therefore so direct me in the works of my calling that I may never trifle with any sickness which Thou hast sent, nor think that it may be managed without Thy fear. How often have those of most learning and experience been put to shame and reproach for their rashness in foretelling the event of diseases which seemed to them but light, and for their neglect in the treatment of them; how often too have wounds which seemed to heal, again rankled and become incurable, even as king Asa, when he sought not to the Lord, but to the physicians[b], found a common disease become unto him incurable and deadly. Surely we sin against

[b] 2 Chron. xvi. 12.

Thee, O God, if we place too much confidence in our own art, or teach the sick to trust in our skill rather than in Thy mercy. Grant therefore, O Lord, my God, that in every disease I may submit myself to Thy will; so shall not my reason wander from its end, nor my treatment be wanting in success. To Thee, O Lord, be ascribed all righteousness, and praise, and glory, for ever and ever; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen. (100.)

(61.) *For Perseverance in Study.*

O MOST merciful Father, how easily do we slide from our labours and studies into slothfulness, luxury, and negligence; for now that I have begun to practise medicine in the strength of mine art and of Thy grace, and Thou hast made me glad with good success, I have become slower in perfecting knowledge. Pardon me, O Lord, my God, and make me most anxious to learn yet more and more of the deep things of our art. Grant that by day and night I may study medicine seriously, and read with judgment the writings both of old and of later times; and that I may honour the learned as mine instructors, and gladly follow the guidance of mine elders; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (101.)

(62.) *For Grace, that they may not go beyond their Skill.*

O Lord God, just and merciful Father, surely those parts of the art of healing which I have learned, I ought to practise; and from those which I have not learned, I should abstain. And yet how easily may I be led on to treat those kinds of sickness that I have never studied, either by the desires of the sick, or by some self-love, or by rashness, and may by this means defile my conscience, and call down Thy vengeance upon myself. May the example of Paetus ever shine before me, who refused to be led by all the gifts of the king to attempt the healing of a disease which he did not know sufficiently; and who, though himself most learned, yet because he understood it not, referred it unto a more excellent physician, even Hippocrates[c]! May I be mindful of Thy curse from Heaven upon all those who shed innocent blood! And therefore I beseech Thee, O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Thy Holy Spirit to restrain me within the bounds of my knowledge, and to confine me to the milder kinds of sickness, that I may not through rash presumption become guilty of the blood of man,

[c] Hippocr. *Epist.*, tom. iii. p. 770.

nor through vain pride exceed the limits of mine imperfect skill; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (102.)

(63). *For God's Help even in the Slightest Diseases.*

O Lord God, Almighty and most merciful Father, who knowest both the weakness of my reason, and the frailty of man's body, how liable it is to change at every moment; and how often (while we think of no such thing,) the slightest diseases increase and gain strength, and bring down disgrace upon us who attempt their cure: I beseech Thee to have compassion upon me and mine inexperience. Assist me even in the slightest diseases with Thy continual help, lest they should become more grievous, and that which is owing to the weakness of man's nature, be laid to my charge; or lest mine uncertain reason should err in the choice of fitting remedies, and so render those sicknesses, which in themselves are not deadly, most dangerous, and even fatal in their end. And this I humbly beg for Jesus Christ His sake. Amen. (103.)

(64.) *Confession of Sin, and Prayer for Pardon.*

O LORD, the great and dreadful God[d], we have sinned, by departing from Thy precepts and from Thy judgments; neither have we hearkened unto Thy servants, the ministers of Thy word, who preach unto us repentance in Thy name, and teach us that Thine Almighty power and mercy ought to be recognised in the diseases of the sick which we cure through Thee, or which nature healeth without our aid, and that with a thankful heart we should always praise Thy name. We have sinned against Thee more than the heathen; for even they, though they knew not Thy Son, yet reverently perceived that Thy divine power was at work in the diseases of the sick. O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, because we have sinned against Thee: but justice is Thine, O Lord God, even as Thy wrath is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness[e]; and because, when we knew Thee, we glorified Thee not as God, Thou hast given us over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient. Therefore is all this disgrace and all this evil come upon us, yet made we not

[d] Dan. ix. 4, &c. [e] Rom. i. 18, &c.

our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand Thy truth. But Thou, O Lord God, hast formed us with unspeakable wisdom, and of Thy great mercy hast granted unto us the use of medicines to preserve and establish man's health, and hast gotten Thee renown as at this day: now therefore, O Lord, according to all Thy righteousness, I beseech Thee, let Thine anger and Thy fury be turned away from the art of healing, which Thou hast of Thy goodness granted unto us for health and strength. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do: defer not for Thine own sake, O my God; for we call upon Thy name, both for the art of healing, and for ourselves; through the merits and mediation of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord. Amen. (105.)

(65). *For Grace in Teaching, and for the Gift of Healing.*

O Lord God, who hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is[f]; who by the mouth of Thy servant David hast said, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? even by ruling himself after My word[g]:" Look down, with Thy favour, we beseech Thee, upon the

[f] Acts iv. 24, &c. [g] Ps. cxix. 9.

number of those who are learning the art of healing, and bring back those who are wandering in strange ways, lest by them our calling should suffer loss. Grant unto us, O Lord, that in our teaching we may set forth the truth, and may ever magnify Thy name. Grant also unto us, O Lord, the gift of healing the sick, and give us grace to strengthen the work of medicine by Thy power, that all who see it may say that Thou hast indeed stretched forth Thine hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of Thy holy Child Jesus, in whom alone is our hope and trust; Who with Thee and the Holy Ghost liveth and reigneth, one God for ever and ever. Amen. (110.)

(66.) *Another for the same.*

O Lord, look down from heaven, and behold the company of physicians here before Thee, and grant unto us, that with all prudence and care we may both teach and practise the art of medicine as Thou hast created it. Help us, O Lord, that the truth alone may be taught; and do Thou stretch forth Thine hand to heal, that signs and wonders may be done, by the name of Thy holy Child Jesus[h]. Amen. (111.)

[h] Acts iv. 30.

(67.) *For the Use of Authors, before Writing.*

O LORD, I am straitened on every side: for if I write and make known such things as may tend to preserve and advance the art of healing, I shall be exposed to the jealousy and evil-speaking of many; and if I continue in silence, I shall not escape the anger of God. But it is better for me with a clean heart to fall into the hands of men, than to sin in the sight of the Lord, who will reward every man according to his works [i]. Grant me therefore, O Lord, the spirit of wisdom, that in all things I may know Thy truth; and pardon the imperfection of my knowledge, for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son. Amen. (112.)

(68.) *Another for the Use of the same.*

O ALMIGHTY and everlasting God, I humbly beseech Thee, of Thine infinite mercy, that Thou wouldest have compassion upon our infirmities, and so defend the art of healing which Thou hast taught us, that it may be preserved from all evil, and may continue Thine for ever. To all those whose chiefest study it is to enlighten that which is obscure, do Thou, O Lord, add the spirit of zeal; and to those who would put away from us

[i] Matthew xvi. 27.

that which is hurtful, and cleanse us from sin and wickedness, be graciously pleased to increase their strength, so that they may more speedily accomplish that which they undertake to do, and may make our art from henceforth to shine before Thee in righteousness, and abound ever more and more to the welfare of mankind. O Lord God, be Thou my witness, that I write not these things from the hope of gain or honour, nor from hatred to my neighbour, nor that I may diminish the praise of any man; but that to advance the truth, to uphold the dignity of our art, and to set forward the good of all men, I have taken in hand this my work, in the name of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Grant, O Lord, that none may be angry with me without a cause, and think that I have written bitter things against them, but rather let them understand that of kindness I have spoken and befriended them, when all others held their peace. Grant this, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen. (113.)

(69.) *For the Use of Professors, before an Examination.*

O Lord, who knowest the hearts of all men, and who art Thyself all our wisdom, and our only guide: Be pleased both now and for evermore to direct us in these our counsels, and give us grace to choose in the stead of those who from

time to time are removed from amongst us, such only as are worthy to supply their place. And this, O Lord, we beseech Thee that Thou wouldest do of Thine infinite goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (114.)

(70.) *At the Election of a new Physician.*

THOU Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men[k], shew whom of all our younger physicians Thou hast chosen, to take the place of him whom Thou hast called away from this life. Never can we choose aright by our own wisdom, O Lord, but we have constant need of Thee to direct us in our counsels and our choice. Be present therefore with us now; through Jesus Christ Thy Son, our Saviour and Intercessor. Amen. (115.)

(71.) *For the Use of Students, before an Examination.*

O LORD God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, together with the Holy Spirit, hast called me unto the art of healing, even from my childhood; and hast not only brought me hither this day, that I may give proof of my learning by mine answers in this public assembly, but willest also that all my life long, and in all places, I should shew forth

[k] Acts i. 24.

the same by healing the sick: Thou knowest, O Lord, the weakness of my knowledge and the greatness of mine art and the difficulty of healing, for, unless Thou speak the word, all our remedies will be in vain. I therefore beseech Thee that Thou wouldest send Thy Holy Spirit unto me, and that Thou wouldest make me a vessel of Thy mercy now and all the days of my life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (116.)

(72.) *Another for the Use of the same.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, who art the Way, the Truth, and the Life[l]; that which Thou didst say unto Thy disciples, that they should take no thought how or what thing they should answer, or what they should say[m], before the judgment-seat to which they might be brought, and didst likewise add that Thou wouldest Thyself, by Thy Holy Spirit, supply all things in their time of need: That same word of promise do Thou at this present graciously fulfil unto Thy servant; and now when I am about to submit myself to the questions of the learned in an art so vast and so difficult, for the due study of which a man's whole life is not sufficient, I beseech Thee to be present with me, by Thy Holy Spirit, and those things which I

[illegible] xiv. 6. [m] Luke xii. 11, 12.

ought to answer in modesty and truth, do Thou, O Lord, vouchsafe to put into my mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (118.)

(73.) *For Divine Aid.*

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, of Thy good pleasure, canst give into my hands many sick men, not to be brought down unto the grave, O Lord, but to be restored to health for Thy glory, that Thy name may be magnified in all my works: Look down upon me in this my calling from Thy holy dwelling, increase my skill, assist the works of mine art by Thy word, and let me not seem unworthy of the art of healing. And this, O Father Almighty, I humbly pray that Thou wouldest vouchsafe to grant unto me, by Thy Holy Spirit; in and through Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (119.)

(74.) *For the Use of those who do not practise their Profession.*

O eternal Lord God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who knowest that the wonderful works of nature have been my delight even from my youth, but that now I am so let and hindered with other things, that I am not able to

perfect the art of healing, and therefore hide myself at home; who seest also that both by day and night I love to recognise Thy power, and to meditate upon Thee in the works of Thy hand, and in the changes of sickness and of health: Increase, O Lord, that which Thou hast begun in me, and strengthen that which Thou hast established. Grant that I may never fail to admire Thy wonders in the art of medicine; let me not be satisfied with the study of the works of nature and of their power, unless in all these very things I acknowledge and worship Thee, O God. Let me never forget Thee in my reading and meditation, but be Thou present, O Lord, and assist me in mine endeavours by Thy Holy Spirit; for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen. (120.)

(75.) *Prayer against Excess, with Thanksgiving for past Mercies.*

I GIVE Thee thanks, O King of glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, because that Thou hast nourished and brought me, and the sick whom I have in charge, through the whole course of our lives, from our youth up until now, and hast provided for us both meat and drink and clothing, and dost abundantly furnish all things that are necessary for our daily life. For behold, naked

came I out of my mother's womb[n], and poor and wretched; but Thou hast given unto me every thing that I need. I beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thou wilt not leave me, nor forsake me, but that Thou wilt bless me in my food and drink and raiment; for Thou knowest, O Lord, that meat doth not strengthen us without Thy blessing, and that we are not able to obtain it by ourselves alone without Thy help, but when Thou givest it us we gather it, and when Thou openest Thy hand we are filled with good[o]. Grant also, I pray Thee, that we may not misuse these Thy gifts, O Lord, for sin; that our hearts may not be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and cares of this life[p]; that we may not fall in time of temptation into the snare of the devil, and be led captive by him according to his will; and that we may be saved from those evil lusts which plunge men into death and perdition. Keep us, O Lord, from all excess, so that we may not, when we have eaten and are filled, deserve an enfeebled body, and an untimely death; and let us not, like the children of Israel in the wilderness, feel the punishment of these offences, but of Thy great mercy keep us from all evil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (123.)

[n] Job i. 21. [o] Ps. civ. 28. [p] Luke xxi. 34.

(76.) *For the Use of younger Physicians, for a Serious Mind.*

O Lord God, merciful and gracious, who didst place our father Adam in the garden of Eden, most pure and innocent, that even in the smallest things he might recognise and praise Thee from day to day; and wouldest also have me to acknowledge and worship and call upon Thee even in the very lightest sicknesses, and dost threaten me with Thy displeasure if I think not seriously of all Thy doings: Create within me, O Lord, an earnest and a serious spirit, and make me in all my ways to look unto Thee alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (124.)

(77). *For Help from God in slighter Diseases.*

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, without whose will there is nothing in man; how often do slight affections increase, and so turn to the great disgrace of our art. Did not King Asa die of a disease which in itself was not so dangerous, even because the physicians to whom he sought, trusted too much in themselves, and did not acknowledge Thy power [q]? I beseech Thee therefore so to govern me and all mine actions in these

[q] 2 Chron. xvi. 12.

milder diseases, that they may tend unto the praise of our art, and the glory of Thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (125.)

(78.) *Another for the same.*

O Lord God, Father of mercy, who dost oftentimes suffer the very least sicknesses to become incurable, in order to excite our prayers and increase our diligence, or to punish either the sick man himself, or his physicians, by bringing them to shame in even the slightest diseases: O help our faith in Thee, O God, that we may not trust too much to ourselves, and that in the very least afflictions we may never forget Thee, or lightly regard the operation of Thy hands; but may alway live in Thy fear and love, and with unceasing prayer may labour for Thee, and in Thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (126.)

(79.) *For Patience, and Faith in God.*

O Lord God, heavenly Father, who of Thine infinite mercy hast compassion upon us, and of Thy great goodness dost hear all those who call upon Thee in sincerity and truth; who, when Thou deferrest Thy help, dost but make trial of our

faith, and dost at length remove the evil from us: We earnestly beseech Thee, that Thou wouldest give us grace to acknowledge Thy fatherly kindness, and with a firm confidence in Thy power to call upon Thee. Incline Thine ear, O Lord, and hear our prayers; and so direct us by Thy Holy Spirit, that without anger and impatience we may bear the hard afflictions and grievous diseases of the sick, and may evermore wait upon Thee for help; even as the woman of Canaan, who through faith received her reward[r]. O Lord, hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thine Only-begotten Son. Amen. (128.)

(80.) *For God's Blessing on Remedies employed.*

O ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who wouldest that we should call upon Thee in the time of trouble, and didst make Thy servant David to rejoice in Thee, and say, "O Lord my God, I cried unto Thee, and Thou hast healed me[s]:" Look down, I beseech Thee, with the eye of pity upon the daily pain and sorrow of this sick man, by which his flesh pineth away. Thou hast said that "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every

[r] Matth. xv. 22. &c. [s] Ps. xxx. 2.

word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God[t];" even so is the sick man healed, not by medicine alone, but by Thy word. Only therefore speak the word, O Lord, and this Thy servant shall be healed[u], and our remedies shall not fail, and as for his grief he shall know it no more. O Lord, we have sinned against Thee, and most justly deserve Thy punishment; but have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father, and let not our misdeeds prevail against us, but where our sin abounded, there let Thy grace much more abound[x]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (129.)

(81.) *Another for the same.*

O Eternal Lord God, who art our health and strength, and who when the help of man is brought to nought, dost stretch out Thine arm to save: I indeed so labour for this sick man that my soul is sore grieved, but Thou, O Lord, if Thou wilt, canst make him whole. Help him, O Lord, with Thy Holy Spirit, that he may bear with patience the long delay of his sickness, and may put his sure trust in Thee; and, as Thou never layest upon us a burden too heavy for us to bear, strengthen me, O my God, in the works of my

[t] Matth. iv. 4; Deut. viii. 3. [u] Matt. viii. 8.
[x] Rom. v. 20.

calling, that I may not desert him in the time of need, nor be weary and slack in my duty towards him. And strengthen also the sick man himself, O Lord, that he may not fall into impatience towards Thee, the great Physician of us all, nor towards me Thine unworthy servant; and this I beg in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen. (130.)

(82.) *For Divine Help in the more Dangerous Diseases.*

O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, art not Thou God in heaven? and rulest not Thou over all kinds of sickness and disease? and in Thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand Thee[y]? Art not Thou our God, who didst first shew us medicine in the tree, which made the bitter waters sweet[z]? and didst Thou not also say, "If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord Thy God, and wilt do that which is right in His sight, and wilt give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians; for I am the Lord that healeth thee?" and again, "As I live, saith the Lord God, I

[y] 2 Chron. xx. 6, &c. [z] Exod. xv. 25, &c.

have no pleasure in the death of the wicked[a]?" Now therefore, O God, when those before us are afflicted both by their sickness and their transgressions, wilt Thou not vouchsafe to heal them? We indeed have no such power in ourselves that we can heal so deadly a disease; but, since we know not what is best for us to do, this alone is left, to direct our eyes unto Thee, and look for Thy saving health; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (131.)

(83.) *For the same in Acute Diseases.*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, who knowest that the life of this sick man cannot be saved if this so great anguish and distress continue: Grant unto him a firm spirit, and endue him with bodily strength, that he may be able to bear with and to overcome the disease with which he is visited by Thee. But if, in Thine infinite wisdom and fatherly love, Thou shouldest otherwise think fit, with our whole heart we beseech Thee to stablish him with Thy Holy Spirit, and to make him steadfast in the knowledge of Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (132.)

[a] Ezek. xxxiii. 11.

(84.) *For Assistance in Time of Danger.*

O ALMIGHTY and merciful God, who killest and makest alive; who bringest down to the grave, and bringest up[b]; and who in time of old didst add unto the days of Hezekiah, even though he were sick unto death, when he turned unto Thee in prayer[c]: Grant, I beseech Thee, through Thine only-begotten Son Jesus Christ, who Himself is the life of all men, that this sick man, who hath faithfully served before Thee in Thy holy Church, may be saved from his danger, and restored by mine aid to his former health; and so may give occasion of praising Thee for ever, for Thine unhoped-for mercy towards him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (133.)

(85.) *Another for the same.*

O LORD God, who art of infinite wisdom, power, and goodness, and hast taught us by the example of the prophet Daniel[d], that those things which are beyond our skill, and the reach of the human mind, are not always to be neglected, but rather may be made the exercise of faith and prayer; who knowest also that the death of this sick man, whom the art of medicine cannot save,

[b] *1 Sam. ii. 6.* [c] Isaiah xxxviii. 1, &c. [d] Dan. ii.

will be with great loss to this Church and nation; Have compassion upon me, and so strengthen my hands by Thy word, that through Thee I may be enabled to heal even the sickness which is unto death. Destroy me not, O Lord, with mine iniquities, and bring not the art of healing into shame through me; reserve not, O Lord, Thine anger for me, but according to the multitude of Thy mercies do away mine offences[e]; then with all the company of heaven shall I laud and magnify Thy glorious name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (134.)

(86.) *For Help to assuage the Pains of the Dying.*

O Lord God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the God of all comforts: Look down, we beseech Thee, in pity and compassion upon this our brother now lying upon the bed of death; forgive him, O Lord, his sins, and assuage his pain, and grant unto him a happy end of life. Strengthen me also with the spirit of mercy, that I may not regard the words of those who speak evil against me, because I am here in the chamber of death, and mine art is not mighty to save; but grant, O Lord, that I may think only of the sore affliction of this Thy servant, and the sword

[e] Ps. li. 1.

which pierceth even through his soul. O Lord, our hope is perished, the snares of death compass him round about, and the pains of hell get hold upon him[f]; who am I, Lord, that I should harden my heart against him, and not wish to soften his agony? his sickness indeed it is not mine to cure, yet should I make known all my counsel to his friends, that they may bear his grief and lighten his sorrows. Give me therefore, O Lord, of Thy Spirit, that I may faithfully serve before Thee, and labour earnestly to relieve the sufferings of this dying man; through Him, who died for us and rose again, Thy Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (135.)

(87.) *For Preparedness for Death.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, Son of the living God, who wast crucified for man: I beseech Thee by all that Thou hast suffered for us, that Thou wouldest heal the wounds of my soul, and wouldest keep me now and all the days of my life, from temptation, transgression, and shame; from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul. From sudden and unexpected death, good Lord, deliver both me, and all those also of whose sickness

[f] Ps. cxvi. 3.

I am taking charge; and grant unto us, O Lord God Almighty, that we may be saved from Thy wrath and condemnation for ever. Give unto me, I pray Thee, a right judgment in all things, that I may both perceive and know what things I ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to perform the same; and teach me, O Lord, to flee from that which is hateful in Thy sight, so that I may not lose the blessed hope of everlasting life. O gracious and merciful Saviour, whose mercy is over all Thy works[g], by Thy cross and passion, and by Thy bitter death, I beseech Thee that Thou wouldest grant unto us all a holy departure hence in Thy faith and fear, that we may dwell with Thee for ever; who with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen. (137.)

(88.) *For Deliverance from Sudden Death.*

Almighty and merciful God, be favourable and gracious unto Thy people; and lest a sudden destruction come upon us unawares, stretch forth the right hand of Thy majesty to save and defend us in all dangers; and this, O Lord, we beg, in

g Ps. cxlv. 9.

the name, and for the sake of Jesus Christ, Thy Son. Amen. (138.)

(89.) *For God's Mercy towards the Sick.*

ALMIGHTY and merciful Father, who hast compassion upon our afflictions, and didst send Thine only Son into the world to be in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin[h]; and in all things to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest, to make reconciliation for us, for ever: We Thy children, O Lord, beseech Thee for this our brother, who is even now hard at death's door, that Thou wouldest not impute his unrighteousness unto him; but that Thou wouldest send unto him Thy Holy Ghost to comfort his soul and to strengthen him in faith and patience. And if it seem good unto Thee, O Lord, restore him unto life, by turning his sickness into health, to the glory of Thy name, and the salvation of his soul; through Him, who is not ashamed to call us brethren, and is the great Physician of us all, Thy Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. (139.)

[h] Heb. iv. 15; ii. 17; ii. 11.

(90.) *In behalf of those afflicted with Madness.*

O MOST merciful Father, Almighty and everlasting God, unto Thee we confess our sins, and before Thee we acknowledge the transgressions of this sick man, for the waters are come in even unto his soul[i]. For Thy dear Son Jesus Christ's sake, we beseech Thee to have pity upon him, to make his bitter anguish cease, and to still the raging of his disease. O Lord, we pray Thee, that Thou wouldest restore him unto health both of body and mind, that he may praise Thy name for ever, and that we may rejoice to see the operation of Thy hands, and to magnify Thy grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (140.)

(91.) *Another in behalf of the same, that they may not destroy themselves.*

O EVERLASTING and merciful Lord God, we beseech Thee of Thine infinite mercy that Thou wouldest send Thy holy Angels to guard all those who are disquieted with madness. Their reason, O Lord, is departed, and they find no rest; grant, we beseech Thee, that the malice of the devil

[i] Ps. lxix. 1.

may not make their affliction greater, and drive them to despair. Suffer them not to be wearied with impatience, and so make haste to take away their life; but save them, O Lord, by Thy goodness, preserve them from this evil, and protect Thy faithful servants for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (141.)

(92.) *For Protection from God, against the Violence of the same.*

O Lord, my God, Thou knowest that our adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour[k]; and that this affliction may most easily be increased by him, unless Thou forbid it; and at last may be so turned into fury, that the sick man shall set his hand against us, who attempt his cure, and shall in a moment take away our lives. Defend me, O Lord, by Thy holy Angels, that his anger may not rage against me; be present with me in the works of my calling, and guide me by Thy Holy Spirit, that my foot may never slip; and fulfil now, O Lord, the promise which Thou hast made to those who walk in Thy ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (142.)

[k] 1 Peter v. 8.

(93.) *For Patience with the same.*

O Jesu Christ, the Lord of life and death, of Thy mercy I beseech Thee that Thou wouldest grant unto me the power of healing this sick man, whose mind wandereth in darkness, and who will not hearken unto the advice which we give. Do Thou, O Lord, shew unto us an occasion of offering the medicines which he refuseth; do Thou help our reason, that it may not be confounded through his madness, and err from Thy truth; and do Thou keep us steadfast in our calling, that we may not be weary in well-doing, and so cease from our labours, in behalf of one who is thus visited by Thee. Grant this, O Lord, we beseech Thee, for Jesus Christ, His sake. Amen. (143.)

(94.) *In any common Plague or Sickness.*

O Almighty, everlasting God, who knowest what is needful for the health both of our bodies and our souls; and who hast mercifully said unto us, "Call upon Me in the time of trouble, so will I hear thee, and thou shalt praise Me[1]:" In this Thy gracious promise, O Lord, we put our trust, and beseech Thee with our whole heart, mercifully to

[1] Ps. l. 15.

protect us in this time of peril, from the noisome pestilence and from deadly fear. If it be to Thine honour and praise in our calling, and to the welfare of others and of ourselves, that we should continue in the flesh, (which yet in our blindness we cannot tell;) spare us, good Lord, spare us; defend us under the shadow of Thy wings, from the great destruction which is in the land; and so vouchsafe to lengthen our days, and to strengthen and direct us by Thy Holy Spirit, that we may not be puffed up with pride, but may lowly and reverently acknowledge Thy gifts, and give, as we are most bounden, continual thanks, evermore praising Thee, for these Thy mercies towards us. But if in Thy good pleasure, O Lord, Thou shouldest think fit to visit us with this sickness, we humbly beseech Thee, most merciful Father, to make us steadfast in Christian patience, and in the true knowledge and faith of Thy well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ, even unto the end of our life; for Thou art He that took us out of our mother's womb, Thou wast our hope when we hanged yet upon our mother's breasts[m]. Remember Thy merciful goodness, O Lord, which endureth for ever and ever upon them that fear Thee[n]; and remember not the sins and offences of our youth, but according to Thy mercy think Thou

[m] Ps. xxii. 9. [n] Ps. ciii. 17.

upon us, O Lord, for Thy goodness[o]. Turn Thee unto us and have mercy upon us, for we are desolate and in misery. The sorrows of our heart are enlarged, O bring Thou us out of our troubles. Look upon our adversity and misery, and forgive us all our sin. O keep our souls, and deliver us, let us not be confounded, for we have put our trust in Thee. Into Thy hands we commend our spirits[p]; and do Thou, O Lord, we pray Thee, graciously receive us into the joys of everlasting life; through Thy well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (149.)

(95.) *Another of the same.*

O MOST gracious and merciful Father, we have sinned against Thee, and have done wickedly, because we have despised Thy word, and have not kept Thy great goodness in remembrance[q], neither have we repented us of our iniquities. Thou art just, O Lord, and doest righteously, who hast plagued us with this great plague; but have mercy upon us, O heavenly Father, for Thy dear Son's sake, cast us not away from Thy presence[r], and give not our life over to the pestilence. Preserve me, O Lord, in my going out and my coming in[s],

[o] Ps. xxv. 6. 15. &c. [p] Ps. xxxi. 6. [q] Ps. cvi. 7.
[r] Ps. li. 11. [s] Ps. cxxi. 8.

and be Thou my defence, when in the works of my calling for the sick I am in danger on every side. Strengthen me, O Lord, with Thy Spirit, lest my heart should fail for fear, and so I should forsake those who have need of mine aid; and grant unto me, O Lord, Thy help in all the works of my hand. Let me not go to the gates of the grave in the cutting off of my days, and be deprived of the residue of my years[t]; but spare me a little[u], that I may learn to die, and to meditate beforehand on my latter end; and suffer me not to fall by a sudden death, without true penitence and faith in Christ. Be graciously pleased also, O Lord, to protect all those who are the Ministers of Thy word in Thy holy Church, that we may not be without their consolation, when chastened by Thy heavy hand. Finally, O Father of mercy, look down in pity upon the sick; heal them, O Lord, of their affliction, and save them from the hand of death, if it be Thy gracious will. But if, in Thy good providence, Thou shouldest otherwise think fit, forgive their sins, O Lord, and by Thy Holy Spirit strengthen their faith in the merits and passion of Thy Son; grant unto them a departure hence in Thy peace and love, and open unto them the gates of Heaven and an entrance into everlasting life. Grant this

[t] Isai. xxxviii. 10. [u] Ps. xxxix. 15.

we beseech Thee, O merciful Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Mediator and Redeemer. Amen. (150.)

(96.) *Another.*

O Lord God, Heavenly Father, who of Thy good pleasure dost lay upon us for our profit the cross and the afflictions of the body; and dost also promise everlasting consolation and joy to those who believe in Thee: Bestow upon us, we pray Thee, Thy Holy Spirit, that we may recognise this Thy fatherly kindness, and may not faint in our minds when Thou dost visit us with affliction, with tribulation, and with the plague. But let us wait with patience for Thy most merciful help, and in full assurance of faith comfort ourselves with the hope of those good things which Thou hast promised to them that love Thee; through Jesus Christ, Thy well-beloved Son, our Lord. Amen. (151.)

(97.) *That the Plague may be stayed.*

O everlasting God, who in all Thy ways art just and right; who in the time of old[x], for the sin of the Prophet David, didst afflict Thy people

[x] 2 Sam. xxiv.

with a grievous pestilence, and yet when he repented and turned unto Thee, didst hearken unto his supplication, and so the plague was stayed: We confess, O Lord, that we have most righteously deserved this dreadful sickness at Thy hands by our innumerable sins, and have provoked most justly Thy wrath and indignation against us. But, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech Thee to pardon our iniquities, and to make Thine anger cease from us; and so to turn away the punishment of our sins, that while we are strong in bodily health, we may more truly repent us of all that is past, and may give the greater diligence to make our calling and election sure[y]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (152.)

(98.) *For Wisdom.*

GRANT unto me, I beseech Thee, O Lord God Almighty, that my soul may watch early in the morning for Thee, who hast made the heavens, and that my prayer may come into Thy presence. Make me, O Lord, to lift up my voice, and cry unto Thee, and earnestly to entreat for the forgiveness of my sins, and the sins of those committed to my care. Grant that in all my ways I may look for Thy saving health, and the word of Thy truth; for

[y] 2 Pet. i. 10.

if Thou wilt, O Lord, Thou canst fill me with knowledge by Thy Spirit, and then shall I send forth, as the drops of rain, the counsels of wisdom which Thou hast granted unto me; and in all my works of healing shall give thanks unto Thee, O God, among the people. O Lord, vouchsafe to direct me in all my counsels and my deeds, and so enlighten me in Thy secret things, that through Thee I may make known the wonders of our art, and the powers of healthful medicine; in the name and for the sake of Thy well-beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (153.)

(99.) *A Morning Prayer.*

(S. Augustine[z].)

O Lord God Almighty, three Persons, and one God, who art always every where, who art from everlasting, before all things were made, and who wilt be over all, God blessed for ever, world without end[a]: I offer and present unto Thee, O Lord, this day and for evermore, myself, my soul and body, my sight, my hearing, my taste, my smelling, and my feeling, all my thoughts, affections, words, and actions, all that is within me, and all that I have without, my reason also and mine intellect, my

[z] *Meditationes, Soliloquia, et Manuale.* c. xl. (12mo. Antv. 1557.)
[a] Rom. ix. 5.

memory, my faith, and my belief; into the hand of Thy power, O Lord, I give them, that Thou mayst guard them every day and night, every hour and minute. O holy Trinity, hear my prayer, and preserve me from all evil and offence, from all deadly sin, from all enemies seen and unseen, from all the crafts and assaults of men and devils; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (158.)

(100.) *An Evening Prayer.*

O Lord Jesu Christ, Almighty and everlasting God, I give Thee most humble and hearty thanks, for that Thou hast vouchsafed of Thy favour to guard me through the day that is past; and I beseech Thee, O Lord, in whatsoever I have sinned this day, in thought, word, or deed, in the labour of my hands, and the sight of mine eyes, by the deceit of the world, the flesh, or the devil, that Thou wouldest mercifully vouchsafe to pardon me, through Thy cross and passion. Be pleased to keep me this night from all dangers both of body and soul, that I may arise in health and safety to praise Thy glorious name, O Lord, and to serve Thee, with a good will, with a pure heart, with a chaste body, and with continual thanks; who *livest* and reignest with the Father and the Holy

Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen. (167.)

(101.) *For the Sick.*

(S. Cyprian.)

O ALMIGHTY, everlasting and most merciful God, who dost open our ears unto discipline[b], and by Thy loving correction dost call us unto Thee; who art wont to chasten our flesh by the hand of sickness, and to take away our security by deadly disease; who dost admonish us of a life spent in iniquity and of its end, by the sore affliction which is the messenger of death and sheweth beforehand of Thy great judgment at the last day and of the life eternal which is then to come: We beseech Thee, O Lord, that Thou wouldest look with pity upon this Thy servant who is lying upon the bed of sickness. Thou dost chasten him with the rod of affliction, which bringeth his sin to remembrance and maketh the image of death to pass before his eyes: we therefore, who look for the same hour of adversity, according to Thine ordinance, together with him, beseech Thee that Thou wouldest not be extreme to mark what he hath done amiss[c], nor reward him according to his iniquities, through the merits of Jesus Christ

[b] Job xxxv. 10. [c] Psalm cxxx. 3.

our Lord, who died for his sins and the sins of us all upon the cross. Look graciously upon him, most merciful Father, as one redeemed by the precious blood of Thy dear Son, and so endue him with strength of mind, and with the spirit of meekness, that he may bear with patience this Thy fatherly visitation, and in perfect obedience to Thy will may acknowledge that Thou of Thy loving-kindness dost afflict him. Defend him, O Lord, in all adversities, and so shall he be delivered from this great danger of death. If his secret faults shall rise up against him, and his own heart shall accuse him unto Thee, do Thou vouchsafe to make the death and passion of Thy dear Son his defence and refuge. For He was wounded for our transgressions[d], and paid the penalty due from us; He was made sin for us, who knew no sin[e], that by His most precious blood he might wash away our sins; and rising again from the dead was made unto us both righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption[f]. May this sick man experience the fruit of these benefits through faith; may he prove Thy help in his distress, and taste of the gifts of Christ. Grant, O Lord, that he may receive heartily the great blessing of the forgiveness of his sins through Christ, who by Thy holy word and Sacraments is

[d] *Isaiah* liii. 5. [e] 2 Cor. v. 21. [f] 1 Cor. i. 30.

held forth unto him for his comfort and defence. Into Thy hand, O heavenly Father, we commend both his soul and body: if he be weak, do Thou strengthen him; if he be fallen, do Thou raise him; if he acknowledge his own impurity, do Thou cleanse him; if he be wounded, do thou heal him; if he be cast down, do Thou encourage him. Embrace him with the arms of Thy mercy, for he fleeth unto Thee; and make him constant in obedience unto Thy commandments. Forgive him to the uttermost, O Lord, his offences, by which he hath excited Thy fierce anger against himself, and vouchsafe to grant unto him eternal life with Thee in glory; or if Thou shouldest be pleased to renew his employment here in dressing Thy vineyard, do Thou make him to be more conformed to the image of Thy Son[g], and enrich him with greater gifts; but, O Lord, Thy will be done, as in thy good providence Thou shalt think fit. Grant unto us, O Lord, these things that we have prayed for through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (170.)

[g] Rom. viii. 29.

(102.) *For Trust in God when ordering Medicine.*

O ALMIGHTY, and most merciful God, who hast granted unto us, in the course of nature which Thou hast established, many excellent remedies for disease, and dost assist us in preserving and restoring the health of man, whensoever it pleaseth Thy gracious will: We beseech Thee with our whole heart so to instruct us in the means which we employ, that we may gratefully acknowledge these Thy benefits in the fear of the Lord, and may confess that all things depend on Thee; and so may look for Thy saving health both in the life of the body, and in things eternal; through Jesus Christ Thy Son. Amen. (171.)

(103.) *At the Time of ordering Medicine.*

STRENGTHEN me, O Lord God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by Thy Holy Spirit, and look down from heaven upon me in this the work of mine art. Grant, O Lord, I beseech Thee, that I may perfect it in Thy fear, and that it may have good success through Thee; and at this time send Thy blessing upon my medicines by Thy word; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (172.)

(104.) *Another of the same.*

REMEMBER me, I pray Thee, O Lord God[h], direct me in the choice of fitting remedies, and so strengthen them that they may overcome this sickness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (173.)

(105.) *Thanksgiving for the Recovery of a Sick Man.*

BLESS GOD, praise Him, and magnify Him, and praise Him for the things which He hath done unto thee in the sight of all that live. It is good to praise God, and exalt His name, and honourably shew forth the works of God: therefore be not slack to praise Him[i]; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (176.)

(106.) *Another of the same.*

THE LORD GOD, who punisheth for sin, hath chastened and corrected thee, but he hath not given thee over unto death[k]. Therefore together with thee do I give thanks unto the Lord our God; for thou didst deserve His anger, but He hath

[h] Judges xvi. 28. [i] Tob. xii. 6. [k] Ps. cxviii. 18.

turned away His wrath, and hath comforted thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (177.)

(107.) *Another.*

BLESSED be the Lord God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath not left my work destitute of His mercy and His truth[1]; and hath led me in a right way to perfect mine art towards this His servant, who was sick even unto death. O Lord, have mercy upon us, and be graciously pleased to establish for many years the health which Thou hast restored unto him; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (178.)

(108.) *Thanksgiving to be used by the Sick Man, after his Recovery.*

(S. Augustine[m].)

O LORD, my Saviour, Thou hast often snatched me from the jaws of death, when grievous sickness did oppress me; and in perils by land and sea, and of fire and sword, and in whatsoever dangers I have been, Thou wast ever with me to deliver me. For Thou knewest, O Lord, that if death had then come hastily upon me, the depths of hell would have received my soul, and I should have been condemned for ever; and so Thy

[1] Gen. xxiv. 27.

[m] *Soliloquia*, c. xviii.

mercy and Thy grace, O Lord, did prevent me, to save me from destruction both of body and soul. These and all other Thy benefits, O Lord, didst Thou shew unto me, and yet was I blind, and did not know them until Thou hadst enlightened me. Now therefore, O Lord, the Light of my soul; O God, my Life, by which I live; the Light of mine eyes, by which I see; behold Thou hast enlightened me, and I acknowledge Thee, and unto Thee do I give thanks, although they are poor, and wretched, and unworthy of Thy benefits. For Thou alone, O Lord, art my God, and Thou lovest our souls, and hatest nothing that Thou hast made; and therefore do I beseech Thee to continue Thy goodness towards me; for the sake of Jesus Christ Thy Son, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen. (180.)

(109.) *Another of the same.*

Blessed be God that liveth for ever[n], and blessed be His kingdom; for He doth scourge, and hath mercy: He leadeth down to hell, and bringeth up again; neither is there any that can avoid His hand. Confess Him before the nations, and extol Him before all the living, for He hath

[n] Tobit xiii. 1, &c.

afflicted us with sickness, and hath healed us, in order that we may declare His greatness, and that beside Him there is no God[o]. He hath scourged us for our sins, and hath had mercy again, and He will save us: therefore see what He hath done for us, and confess Him with your whole mouth, O ye sinners, and turn and do justice before Him; who can tell if He will accept you, and have mercy on you? As for me, I will extol my God, and my soul shall praise the King of heaven, and rejoice in His greatness. Bless the Lord, all ye His chosen; keep ye holy-days of joy, and acknowledge Him; praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits[p]; for Jesus Christ His sake. Amen. (181.)

(110.) *When departing from a Sick Man whose State is doubtful.*

O Lord God, merciful Father, who hast promised Thy divine help when man's assistance faileth, and hast commanded us to call upon Thee in the time of trouble[q]: I beseech Thee that Thou wouldest have mercy upon this Thy servant, who now lieth between hope and fear. O Lord, I seek Thee while Thou mayest be found, I call upon Thee while Thou art near[r]; be present, I pray

[o] *Isai. xliv. 6.* [p] Ps. ciii. 2. [q] Ps. l. 15. [r] Isai. lv. 6.

Thee, with this sick man by Thy heavenly grace; and do Thou guide and direct all the works of our art to his benefit, and to Thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (182.)

(111.) *Another of the same.*

O LORD GOD, the Lord of life and death, Thou art gracious and true, long-suffering, and in mercy ordering all things; to know Thee is perfect righteousness; yea, to know Thy power is the root of immortality[8]: we resign ourselves entirely unto Thee; and do Thou what is best for Thine honour and glory, and for the safety of our souls; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (183, 4.)

(112.) *To be used with a Dying Man, before departing from him.*

IN THINE anguish and sorrow thou shalt cry unto the Lord thy God, and He will hear thy voice. May the Lord perfect thee, and save thee; and may He prepare thee in this short life for everlasting happiness, unto which He hath called thee in Christ Jesus. To Him therefore, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be all honour, and glory, and power, for ever and ever. Amen. (186.)

[8] Wisd. xv. 1. 3.

(113.) *In Behalf of those who are at the Point of Death.*

O LORD, who hast power of life and death; who leadest to the gates of hell, and bringest up again[t]: Have mercy, I beseech Thee, upon this sick man, and guard his soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (190.)

(114.) *Another of the same.*

O ALMIGHTY God, the preserver of our souls, who dost chasten every man whom Thou lovest; and thereby dost graciously constrain him to amendment of life: We give thanks unto Thee, O Lord, for Thy manifold mercies, and in Thy loving-kindness do we put our trust, most humbly beseeching Thee that Thou wouldest have mercy upon this Thy servant, and grant unto him that the enemy of his soul may not prevail against him, but that he may obtain a passage hence to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (191.)

(115.) *Another of the same, to be used with the Sick.* (S. Jerome[u].)

O GRACIOUS Jesus, my strength and comfort, who dost hold me up and deliver me; Thou art

[t] Wisd. xvi. 13.

[u] Euseb. *de Morte Hieron.*, in S. Hieron. *Opera*, tom. xi. p. 312. *Ed.* Veron. 1742.

my praise, in Thee is my hope and trust. Thee, O Lord, do I love, and in Thee my soul delighteth; Thou art my house of defence, and my castle; Thou art my hope even from my youth[x]. Call me, O Lord, Thou ruler of my life, and I will answer Thee; stretch forth the right hand of Thy mercy upon me who am the work of Thy hands, whom Thou, the Creator of all things, hast formed out of the clay[y], and hast joined together and compacted[z]; unto whom in death Thou givest life. Of Thy mercy, O Lord, send Thy word and tarry not; for it is time that the dust return to the earth as it was, and the spirit return unto God who gave it[a], and who hath redeemed it from the power of the grave. Open unto it the gates of everlasting life, for, when Thou didst hang upon the cross, Thou didst graciously promise that Thou wouldest receive it[b]. Come, O my beloved, let me hold Thee, nor ever let Thee go; O lead me into the tabernacle of Thy house. Thou, O Lord, art my defender, Thou art my worship and the lifter-up of my head; salvation belongeth unto Thee, and Thy blessing is upon Thy people[c]. Receive me, O merciful Lord, according to Thy mercies, for in the agonies of death Thou didst acknowledge the

[x] Ps. lxxi. 2. 4.
[y] Job xxxiii. 6.
[z] Eph. iv. 16.
[a] Eccles. xii. 7.
[b] Luke xxiii. 43.
[c] Ps. iii. 3. 8.

penitent thief, when he turned unto Thee upon the cross. Grant that I may possess Thee, O eternal Blessedness; and enlighten me with Thine everlasting presence, when, like the blind man by the way side, I cry out, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Thou Son of David[d]." O Light, without which there is no truth, no judgment, no wisdom, and no goodness, do Thou lighten mine eyes that I sleep not in death, lest mine enemy say, I have prevailed against him[e]. Grant this, O merciful Father, for Jesus Christ His sake. Amen. (192.)

(116.) *Another.*

(S. Augustine[f].)

I KNOW, O Lord, I know and confess that I am not worthy that Thou shouldest love *me*, but Thou truly art not unworthy that I should love Thee; unworthy I am to serve Thee, but Thou art not unworthy of the service of Thy creature; give therefore, unto me, O Lord, of Thy worthiness, and I from mine unworthiness shall become worthy. Make me, as Thou wouldest, to cease from sin, that I may serve Thee as I ought; grant unto me so to guard, and rule, and end my life, that I may sleep in peace, and rest in Thee; grant unto me that, in the end, sleep with rest may receive

[d] Matt. xx. 31. [e] Ps. xiii. 3, 4. [f] *Meditationes*, c. x.

me, and rest with salvation, even salvation for evermore; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (193.)

(117.) *For the Blessing of Jesus Christ in Life and Death.*

(S. Dionysius.)

O MOST loving Jesus, O Lord Christ, the brightness of Thy Father's glory[g], the Sun of righteousness[h]; who for me Thine unworthy servant didst vouchsafe to bear this most wretched body of grief, and upon mount Calvary didst give Thy life a ransom[i] for the world, and didst commend Thy spirit into Thy Father's hands with prayer: Grant unto me, I pray Thee, that I may ever bear about in my breast alike the anguish and the love of this Thy most bitter death; and by continually mortifying my corrupt affections, may daily so exercise myself to die together with Thee, that in passing through the grave and gate of death I may be refreshed with the light of Thy countenance[k], and may enter with Thee into the joy of paradise. Be with me, O Lord, when my last hour draweth near; help me in the agony of death; hasten unto me, and save me from mine enemies; deliver me from my misery, and comfort me in

[g] Heb. i. 3. [h] Mal. iv. 2. [i] Matt. xx. 28. [k] Ps. lxxx. 19.

my tears. O revive me when I am fainting; and receive me when I utter Thy last words upon the cross, as my last words in this life; and when my voice faileth, hear Thou my last prayer, "Father "into Thy hands I commend my spirit, for Thou "hast redeemed me, O Lord Thou God of truth[1]." O Lord, grant this unto me; grant it of Thine infinite mercy, O Lord Christ, who with the Father and the Holy Ghost art one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (194.)

(118.) *In Behalf of those in the Agony of Death.*

O ALMIGHTY and most merciful God, who preservest our life in death, we beseech Thee that Thou wouldest be pleased to turn the eyes of Thy mercy upon this sick man, to refresh him both in body and soul, and to forgive him all his iniquities. We pray Thee that the oblation of the Lamb without spot, Thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, may be accepted as an atonement for his sins; for in the confession of His name was he baptized, and was washed, and cleansed by His blood. We beseech Thee, therefore, that Thou wouldest now deliver him from the torments and pains of his body, and wouldest shorten his anguish and his afflictions; and that Thou wouldest save him from the stings

Ps. xxxi. 6. Luke xxiii. 46.

of his own conscience, and the temptations of the enemy; so that he may fight valiantly, and overcome through faith. Grant unto him, O Lord, the righteousness of the perfect to direct his way[m] unto everlasting life; and send unto him Thy holy Angels, that they may lead him to the fellowship of all Thine holy ones, and Thine elect; through Jesus Christ Thy Son. Amen. (195.)

(119.) *Another of the same, to be used with them.*

O FATHER of all compassion and grace, have mercy upon my soul; and vouchsafe to grant unto me the forgiveness of the sins which I have committed against Thee. O cast not away Thine afflicted servant, and despise not Thou the work of Thine own hands[n], for in Thee have I put my trust, O Lord my God. O Christ, the Lamb of God, which takest away the sins of the world[o], Thou art my strength and my Redeemer, and Thou hast washed and cleansed me by Thy blood. By Thy cross and passion, I beseech Thee, and above all by those bitter things which Thou didst suffer in the agony of death, when Thou gavest up the ghost, that Thou wouldest have mercy upon my soul at its departure from the body, and wouldest lead it into

[m] Prov. xi. 5.
[n] Ps. cxxxviii. 8; vii. 1; xix. 15.
[o] John i. 29.

life eternal. O God the Holy Ghost, the Comforter, do Thou keep my heart and mind from the temptations of the enemy, and so increase and strengthen my faith that I may firmly believe in the forgiveness of sins, and the life everlasting. Now therefore, O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, unto Thee do I commend my spirit, for Thou hast redeemed me; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, one God, world without end. Amen. (196.)

(120.) *Another.*

O MERCIFUL Father, who dost make all things work together for good to them that love Thee [p]; and now hast visited me with a deadly sickness, in order that I may learn beforehand that the end of my life draweth near: Increase, I beseech Thee, my trust in Thy Son Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Give me grace, O Lord, steadfastly to believe that all my sins will be forgiven me through Him; for therefore was I baptized, and absolved, and strengthened by the communion of His body and blood; and Thou too, who art truth itself, hast promised to all who seek it, the pardon of their iniquities. I am afraid, O Lord, lest Satan should cast his terrors upon me, and take away my comfort; I beseech

[p] Rom. viii. 28.

Thee therefore, O heavenly Father, that Thou wouldest be present with me, so to strengthen my faith, that I may resist the enemy when he cometh upon me. Help me, Lord Jesu, for I am straitened on every side; and enlighten mine eyes that they may be joyful in Thee. Thou, who hast redeemed me from the power of the devil, guard me in this temptation, that I may praise Thee and glorify Thy name for ever. O comfort me with Thy word, that I may know that Thou art merciful unto me, and may patiently wait for Thee, and put my trust in Thee. O God the Holy Ghost, who with the Father and the Son art mine only consolation in my sorrow, make Thy brightness to shine upon me, and kindle in me the light of faith, that I may overcome mine enemy, and obtain a blessed departure hence unto life everlasting. O holy Trinity, strengthen me and save me, for in Thee do I put my trust, and unto Thee do I commend my spirit. O Lord Jesu, guard my soul, which Thou hast redeemed with Thy most precious blood, and lead it from this vale of misery into Thy heavenly kingdom, where, in the communion of the faithful, it may live in endless joy. And this I most humbly beg in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen. (197.)

(121.) *To be used before an Operation.*

O Lord God, the strength of our health, who not only givest medicine to heal our sickness[q], but also wisdom to the physician: Bless the means, I humbly beseech Thee, that are used by me for the ease and comfort of this Thy servant; and so direct the skill employed in his behalf, that, if it be Thy blessed will, it may be effectual to the working of a speedy cure. But more especially I beg of Thee, O Lord, so to assist the counsels of those who take thought for his health, and so to prosper the work I am about to perform, that, by Thy mercy, it may have a happy end. O guide Thou my hand this day, that, in firm reliance on Thine Almighty Providence, it may not slip; and give this sick man strength and patience to endure the pain, and to quit himself with Christian fortitude. Hear me, O Lord, hear me; and do Thou in Thy goodness assist the endeavours of man by stretching forth Thy hand to heal; so that by Thy blessing this our brother may be restored to health and strength, and may live to serve Thee more faithfully for the time to come; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.—*See Hannam's Invalid's Help, &c.*

[q] Ps. cxlvii. 3.

(122.) *On any Abatement of Sickness.*

O MOST merciful God, who, of Thy great goodness, hast comforted and relieved this Thy servant in his sickness by an interval of ease: We humbly bless and praise Thy holy name for this and all the other mercies which Thou hast bestowed upon him. Continue, we beseech Thee, this relief, and grant, if it be Thy blessed will, that it may lead to his recovery; but, whatsoever Thou willest, gracious Father, concerning the further improvement of his body, give him grace to turn this visitation to the welfare of his soul, and make him know and feel that there is none other name under heaven given unto man in whom and through whom he may receive health and salvation, but only the name of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ[r]. Amen. —*Hannam.*

(123.) *For a Woman with Child.*

O LORD God, who, as a punishment for the sin of the mother of all living, didst multiply her sorrow and conception[s], and thus entail upon women the great pain and peril of child-birth: Defend this woman Thy servant both now and in the time of her travail, and grant her a safe de-

[r] Acts iv. 12. [s] Gen. iii. 16.

liverance for Thy mercy's sake. Give her, most gracious Father, comfort and sure confidence in Thee, so that she may patiently and cheerfully wait until her days shall be accomplished; and when the time of her delivery draweth near, do Thou for Thy goodness' sake shorten her anguish, and support her through her troubles, and grant that they may leave her a joyful mother of a hopeful and healthy child. Into Thy hands, O Lord, we commend both her body and her soul, in the humble hope that Thou wilt preserve her from all danger, and in Thine own good time enable her to pay her vows in the courts of Thy house[t] for all the benefits done unto her; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.—*Hannam.*

(124.) *Prayer in Behalf of a Sick Person.*

Blessed Jesus, we desire neither life nor death, but Thy most holy will; Thou art the thing, O Lord, that we look for; be it unto us according to Thy good pleasure. If it be Thy will that this Thy servant should die, receive his spirit, and grant that in Thee and with Thee he may have everlasting rest. If it be Thy will that I should be the means in Thy hand of prolonging his days,

[t] Ps. cxvi. 13.

and that he live any longer upon earth, give him grace to amend the rest of his life, and with good works to glorify Thy holy name, who, with the Father and the Holy Ghost, livest and reignest ever one God, world without end. Amen.—*See Hook's Private Prayers.*

(125.) *Another of the same.*

ALMIGHTY and most merciful God and Saviour, extend Thine accustomed goodness unto all Thy servants who are grieved with sickness, especially unto those under my care. Sanctify, I beseech Thee, this Thy fatherly correction to them; that the sense of their weakness may add strength to their faith, and seriousness to their repentance; that, if it shall be Thy good pleasure to restore them to their former health, they may lead the residue of their lives in Thy fear, and to Thy glory; or else, give them grace so to take Thy visitation, that, after this painful life ended, they may dwell with Thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.—*See the Order for the Visitation of the Sick.*

(126.) *For Compassion towards the Sick.*

O MOST gracious God, who by Thy Son Jesus Christ hast knit us all together in one body, that we should love one another, and if one member suffers all the members should suffer with it[u]: Give us at all times a compassionate feeling for the sufferings of the sick and afflicted. Make us ready to afford them that assistance which we should wish for ourselves if we were in their situation; and do Thou bless our weak endeavours for their good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.—*Archdeacon Berens' Sermons on Sickness.*

(127.) *Morning Prayer.*

O THOU great Giver of health, strength, and comfort, grant Thy blessing, I beseech Thee, upon the duties of my calling in which I may engage this day. Give me judgment to discern disease, and skill to treat it; and crown with Thy favour the means that may be devised for recovery; for, with Thine assistance, the humblest instrument may succeed, as, without it, the ablest must needs fail. Save me from all sordid motives, and endue me with a spirit of pity and liberality

[u] 1 Cor. xii. 26.

towards the poor, and of tenderness and sympathy towards all; that I may enter into the various feelings by which they are each one tried, may rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep[x]. And sanctify Thou their souls, O Lord, as well as heal their bodies. Let faith and patience, and every Christian virtue they are called upon to exercise, have their perfect work[y]; so that, in the gracious dealings of Thy spirit and of Thy providence, they may find in the end, whatever that end may be, that it is good for them that they have been afflicted[z]. Grant this, O heavenly Father, for the love of that adorable Redeemer, who, while on earth, went about doing good[a] to the souls and bodies of men, and now ever liveth to make intercession[b] for us in heaven. Amen.—*See Gregory's Mem. of J. M. Good, M.D.*

(128.) *Evening Prayer.*

O Most Gracious Father, who neither slumberest nor sleepest[c], who art about our bed[d], and knowest all our wants: Look with pity and compassion this night on the sufferings of all those who are afflicted with sickness, especially

[x] Rom. xii. 15. [y] James i. 4. [z] Ps. cxix. 71.
[a] Acts x. 38. [b] Heb. vii. 25. [c] Ps. cxxi. 4. [d] Ps. cxxxix. 2.

those under my care. Refresh their bodies with needful rest and sleep; or, if Thou continuest to hold their eyes waking[e], help them by Thy Holy Spirit to commune with their own hearts[f], and so to meditate on Thy mercies in Christ Jesus, that, in the midst of all their weariness and pains, Thy comforts may refresh their souls[g]. Lord, be merciful unto them; strengthen them upon the bed of sickness; relieve all their infirmities, both of body and soul; and in the end bring us all to Thine everlasting rest; through our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.—*See Hannam's Invalid's Help, &c.*

(129.) *For the Use of those detained from Public Worship on a Sunday.*

O Lord, the great and holy God, who desirest mercy and not sacrifice[h]; who fillest heaven and earth with Thy presence: Look down, I beseech Thee, on me, Thine unworthy servant, in my present circumstances. This is the day which Thou hast appointed to be kept holy, by rest from our labours, and by acts of religious worship; and yet Thou didst Thyself perform cures upon it, to teach us that it is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days[i].

[e] Ps. lxxvii. 4. [f] Ps. iv. 4. [g] Ps. xciv. 19.
[h] Hos. vi. 6. [i] Matth. xii. 12.

Thou knowest that I love the habitation of Thy house[k], and should be glad and thankful to join with Thy worshippers there; nor, did I willingly forsake the place where Thine honour dwelleth should I dare to ask Thy favour in my present absence from it. But since, by Thy providence, I am of necessity detained from it by this work of charity and mercy, I entreat Thy favour with my whole heart, and beg Thine assistance in my private reading, meditation, and prayers. May my thoughts be serious and devout, and the desire of my soul be to Thee throughout this sacred day, even when employed in the works of my calling. Supply the want of the public means of grace by the teaching of Thy word and Spirit. Bring to my remembrance and impress on my heart, what I have formerly heard and read of the great things of religion and salvation, that my soul may be improved, and my graces and good dispositions may be confirmed and strengthened. Command Thy blessings on all Thy worshipping servants, and on the labours of Thy ministers; and let that blessing rest on me also, who, though absent in body, desire to be present with them in spirit now; and hope at length to join the general assembly of Thy Saints in heaven in ascribing without ceasing, Blessing, and honour, and glory,

[k] Ps. xxvi. 8.

and power, unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever[1]. Amen. —*See Stonhouse's Prayers for the Use of Private Persons, &c.*

(130.) *On entering a Hospital.*

O Lord, I beseech Thee, grant Thy blessing upon all the sick persons in this house, and especially those under my care; direct me to choose the remedies most fitting for each; and grant that by studying the sicknesses of these I may learn to heal those of others also; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(131.) *Another of the same, for the Use of Students.*

O Almighty God, who hast caused this house to be built for Thy praise: Grant that I may not defile it by any evil thought, or word, or deed. Make me thankful, I pray Thee, for the means of learning the duties of my calling which Thou hast given me here, and diligent in the use of them; and fill me also, O Lord, with kindness and gentleness towards the sick; for Jesus Christ His sake. Amen.

[1] Rev. v. 13.

(132.) *When going from a Hospital.*

O LORD, I praise Thy glorious name for the mercies which Thou hast here vouchsafed to our afflicted brethren in Christ. Grant, I beseech Thee, that the sufferings which we have seen, may make us think more of others, and less of ourselves; and so teach us, O Lord, to number our days[m], that we may be prepared for our latter end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(133.) *Collect for St. Luke's Day.*

ALMIGHTY God, who calledst Luke the Physician, whose praise is in the Gospel, to be an Evangelist, and Physician of the Soul: May it please Thee, that, by the wholesome medicines of the doctrine delivered by him, all the diseases of our souls may be healed; through the merits of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[m] Ps. xc. 12.